

Husband: **ANTONY JANSEN VAN SALÉE**  
 Born: 1608 Cartagena, Murcia, Castile  
 Died: 1676 New York, Province of New York  
 Buried: Dutch Burying Ground, New York (?)  
 Father: JAN JANSEN VAN HAARLEM (1570 – 1650)  
 Mother: MARGARITA

Wife 1: **GRIETJE REYNIERS**  
 Born: circa 1602 Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 Died: 1669 Gravesend, Kings County, New York Prov.  
 Buried:  
 Married: January 1630 onboard ship to New Amsterdam  
 Father: JOHANNES REYNIERS  
 Mother: JANNETJE

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) ANNICA ANTONISE JANSEN VAN SALÉE	circa 1632	New Amsterdam, New Netherlands
2) SARAH ANTONISE JANSEN VAN SALÉE	circa 1635	New Amsterdam, New Netherlands
3) CORNELIA ANTONISE JANSEN VAN SALÉE	circa 1638	New Amsterdam, New Netherlands
4) EVA ANTONISE JANSEN VAN SALÉE	1641	New Amsterdam, New Netherlands

Wife 2: **METJE GREVENRAET**  
 Born: circa 1630 Reusel, Reusel-De Mierden, N Brabant, Netherlands  
 Died: 1686 New York, Province of New York  
 Married: 1670 New York, Royal Colony of New York  
 Father: ANDRIES GREVENRAET  
 Mother: METJE JANS  
 Issue: None

Many stories have been created since the time, nearly four centuries ago, that this ancestral couple of ours roamed the planet. Unbelievable to this author is the amount of not only information but the very substance of their lives that remains on the planet, some of which has been actually restored to that period when ANTONY and GRIETJE roamed the rooms in some buildings! ANTONY secures the largest number of facts and fallacies but GRIETJE's life attracted a fair amount as well.

**ANTONY (ANTONY) JANSEN VAN SALÉE (VAN ZALÉE);  
ALSO VAN VEES, VAN VAES, VAN FEZ, VAN VAAS, “THE MULATTO,” “THE TURK”**

First, as to ANTONY – he was allegedly born around 1608 in Cartagena, the in the Kingdom of Murcia, one of the lands belonging to the Crown of Castile, to JAN JANSEN VAN HAARLEM and his second wife whose name may have been MARGARITA. She seems to have been of Berber stock. The place of birth comes from his marriage license in which he told the recorder he was a seaman from that place; this may have been said to expedite the issuance of said license as well as accounting for his dark complexion. However there has been no evidence to contradict either the year or place of birth as stated. The darker-skinned Berbers are the indigenous peoples of northwestern Africa, mainly associated with the country of Morocco (and a particular type of carpet). This second marriage came to pass while JAN’S first wife, SOUETGEN CAVES, was alive and well in Holland but to JAN this would pose no problem. His first wife was a Christian, as he was when they married, and, in his adopted home – the Regency of Algiers – and within the tenets of his adopted religion – Islam – this first marriage was not valid. Besides, JAN’S new religion allowed him to have up to four wives simultaneously (never mind the question of just how that would work) and several concubines or what we would call common-law wives. It is believed that ANTONY spent most of his first two decades in Morocco, mainly in Salé, but the reasons for this change of location have been obscured. Likely is the possibility that his family fled the religious persecution of the Moorish (Muslim) population of the Kingdom of Spain under FELIPE IV. This persecution reached the former Kingdom of Murcia in 1613 and it is a safe assumption the family had moved to Morocco by this time. If not, ANTONY would have been removed from his parents and placed in the care of a Roman Catholic couple to receive enlightenment and the conversion to their faith – in reality, he would have been their slave and dragged to the nearest Church and forcibly baptized. As this less-than-Christian occurrence did not befall ANTONY, it is safe to assume the family left Cartagena, intact. Nothing of a definitive nature has been found that clearly established a Cartagena birth; rather it seems to have been an accepted if unproven fact; hopefully some documentary evidence will surface when the extant town records are examined. ANTONY’S own claim for that location may have been the result of applying for the marriage license – before 1609 The Netherlands was part of the Spanish HABSBURG lands and claiming a birth in Cartagena would allow you to obtain a marriage license in Amsterdam with little fuss. Assuming it is accurate it is quite possible that ANTONY was born there not because his parents lived there but only because that is where his mother was when she gave birth (in which case the likelihood of finding documentary evidence is greatly decreased). JAN may have been there to lend a hand in the privateering ventures of the Moroccan Emir which would go hand-in-hand with the freedom-fighting sentiment of his Dutch background. Morocco was not a safe place to live in the first decade of the 17<sup>th</sup> century as the throne was disputed between three sons of EMIR AHMED EL MANSOUR EL DEBI since his death in 1603. The civil wars that ultimately resulted in the victory of ZIDAN would not be over until 1614. The strife in Morocco made it a dangerous place to live; perhaps this was behind the supposed Cartagena sojourn. If this was true, whatever assistance JAN provided to the Emir would have been more in the way of espionage than the taking of Spanish prizes. The presence of his pregnant wife in the execution of the latter would not only be a hindrance but also dangerous and counterproductive. Whether or not Spanish citizenship was fully lost with the expulsion of Spanish Muslims is not known. Morocco, being somewhat safer beginning in 1610, may have drawn JAN back well-before the enactment and subsequent enforcement of the expulsion of the Moors which came to

Cartagena in 1613. There are five references that place one ANTONY JANSE, Captain of the *Flessingue*, at Sal   from December 1622 until March 1623.<sup>1</sup> At about 14 years old in 1622, ANTONY JANSEN VAN SAL   would not have been old enough to serve as a ships' captain, perhaps as a cabin-boy, but not captain, making it highly improbable that this is our ancestor. His story picks up in Amsterdam in 1628 where he is found as the captain of a merchant vessel. This fact attests to his success in that field which, in turn, attests to at least a rudimentary expertise being developed in that field which, at his best, would not be likely to be less than three years of being in the business of sailing. He seems to have been hired to captain a ship rather than owning one outright in that, when he sailed to the new world, it was not as a captain of his own ship but rather as a passenger on one. Of course, if he did own a ship, it may well have been too small or too dangerous to sail across the Atlantic, especially in the winter months, in which case he would have disposed of it in some manner, probably selling it. In 1647 the opportunity arose in which, had he the experience and desire, he could follow in his father's footsteps and become a privateer with a letter-of-marque against Spanish and Portuguese shipping issued on behalf of the DWIC by PETRUS STUYVESANT as DIRECTOR-GENERAL of New Netherlands, however there seems to be no move made in this direction.

**Two myths** – one commonly-repeated and the other unbelievably ridiculous – about ANTONY's life up to this point need to be addressed. The first one is that he was a pirate. There is nothing that lends any credence, however slight, to this supposition. It may have its origins in the fact that his father was a privateer for the Emir of Morocco and may have engaged in similar activities while in the Netherlands before that. JAN would certainly have been called a pirate by those he challenged – which, as it turns out, would have been Spanish ships in both cases. That JAN also operated as a pirate is considered a well-established fact despite the lack of clear evidence and the brush that tarnishes the father appears to have added a bit of false coloring to that of the son. That being said, it would be logical to assume that ANTONY did possess sailing skills but the lack of any mention of him in connection with that activity indicates a minimal involvement at best. The Dutch recently honored JAN JANSEN – considered to be somewhat of a patriot or freedom-fighter – when they nominated an opera performed by the singing group Camerata Trajectina that glorifies JAN's life as the lead production for the 2006 Dutch National Opera season.<sup>2</sup> Even more recently the stage act "*JAN JANSZON, de blonde Arabier*" toured the Netherlands in 2009. It was written by KARIM EL GUENNOUNI, and based on JANSZON's life as a pirate. However, as far as the sons are concerned, there is only the single mention of ANTONY being hired to captain a ship while he lived in Amsterdam that indicates he knew how to sail. Given the commonality of his name, plus the known confusion with the captain in Sal   bearing the same name, whatever evidence that does exist needs to be re-examined to confirm or deny whether it, in fact, refers to our ancestor. ANTONY's life in the New World is completely devoid of any references to sailing – not as a business, not personally ... nothing.

ANTONY, being the product of a fair-skinned father and dark-skinned mother, inherited his mother's skin; it isn't clear from which parent he inherited his reputed tall stature and immense strength. In records of New Netherlands and New York, "*the Turk*" is often found appended to his name. The most common reason would be to distinguish one ANTONY JANSEN from another of the same name – the presence of at least two men with the name ANTONY JANSEN is documented in New Amsterdam at the same time. The appellation could also have been attached as a slight as being called a Turk could bring a charge of slander against the one who

uttered it (but only if it was not an accurate description). But as “*Turk*” was used for several different reasons – those including an adherent of Islam, one of Middle Eastern descent, anyone who was a Caucasian of European descent through one parent only – or just looked like that – it was also thrust on those perceived as being untrustworthy and was the equivalent, or thereabouts, of being called a *rascal* (which was also slanderous) – we have several explanations to pick and choose from. We must remember that it was at this very time that the Ottoman Turks and their allies, the Caucasian Tartars, were penetrating deep into Eastern Europe – practically all of Hungary and the Balkan states were under Islamic control and the capital of the Holy Roman Empire at Vienna was under constant threat. If we equate the Sultan in Istanbul with the Pope in Rome, then the Sultan of Morocco would be MARTIN LUTHER or JOHN CALVIN – both leaders of Christian religions though not Roman Catholic. Moroccan Islam has a unique origin in the Muslim world – its founder held many religious truths that were, and are, at variance with the larger Muslim world and the Moroccan style of the faith has incorporated more of the indigenous people’s spiritual and religious beliefs and practices than has Islam in any other locale. Of course it is impossible to say with any certainty the style, if any, of Islam practiced by ANTONY. His father must have converted while in Algiers, before ANTONY was born. Algiers practiced a much more traditional form of Islam and was under greater sway of the Ottoman Sultan. ANTONY, being raised in Morocco, probably saw little of Algerian Islam but, when considering his later actions, it seems that Islam did play a significant part in his life. It is safe to venture that the application of “*Turk*” did not have a positive connotation however it is equally difficult to conclude that it was applied in a solely derogatory fashion. The early court records of New Amsterdam contain the Declaration, dated 29 April 1638, of a REINIER JANSEN or REMMER JEWERDEN, who states that the tailor HENDRICK JANSEN called ANTONY “*a Turk, a rascal and a horned beast*.”<sup>3</sup> As ANTONY was a Muslim, it follows that it could not be slanderous to call him a Turk and in his case it appears that it was used, in part, as a descriptive, but lumping it together with *rascal* and *horned beast* denotes a negative connotation. Countering this innocuous appellation is the 1536 definition in the *Oxford English Dictionary*: “anyone behaving as a barbarian or savage.” His Long Island farm, or bouwery, bordering Coney Island was called *Turk’s Plantation*, a name that lasted decades after ANTONY’S demise. Because of ANTONY being referred to as *the Turk* the possible existence of a brother named ABRAHAM becomes stronger – the minutes of the Orphan’s Court of New Amsterdam of 9 April 1659 contain a reference to ABRAHAM JANSEN VAN SALÉE, *commonly called the Turk* – the similarity to our ancestor is striking, but far from proof.

The ridiculous myth is a racist one. In the mid-twentieth century, one “researcher” – one with a Ph.D. – a very racist researcher – reported that ANTONY’S mother was definitely not a dark-skinned Berber woman but was a wholesome, fair-skinned, blond-haired Dutch lass (she may have thrown in blue-eyed for good measure) – oh yes, she was also very buxom. Just how this Ph.D. knew this mythical woman’s bust size defies reason and credibility (I have never come across any historical documents that record that particular characteristic). She then continues with the preposterous statement that while she grants that ANTONY had dark skin, in fact, he was just very, very, *very* tan because of his sojourn in Morocco. Accordingly, ANTONY wasn’t of mixed-blood, he wasn’t mulatto (which may be an incorrectly applied description as will be discussed later), he was a bright and sparkling, and very white, Caucasian from Holland, albeit, a very tan one. It seems that while living in sunny Morocco, he got a tan, which was perfectly natural. And this tan got deeper with each passing year – to the point that, after a decade or more, the tan became permanent (if only)!!! ANTONY’S dark skin was a function of genetics, not sun



exposure! This *researcher* ignores the fact that JAN was not *in* the Netherlands from the mid- to late-1590s and deliberately omits the three-hundred-year-old documentation that states ANTONY was a Muslim of mixed descent.<sup>4</sup> The writer is not a researcher and is best ignored given her ignorance of simple human physiology and/or the deliberate hand-picked manner by which she chooses what facts to discard and a self-constructed fairy tale that she tries to pass off as fact – all under the guise of a *researcher* with a *Ph.D.* – the bane of all real researchers.

The status of ANTONY'S citizenship explains how it came to be that he was able to move to New Netherlands in 1629. ANTONY'S father was Dutch, hailing from the town of Haarlem and Dutch officials repeatedly recognized this as fact as late as 1640. JAN JANSEN used the fact of his Dutch nationality several times to his advantage by gaining access to Dutch ports to complete repairs to his ships and probably do a bit of trading. That the children of JAN JANSEN also held Dutch citizenship appears to be supported by the ease with which ANTONY established himself in Amsterdam during the 1620s. Since it is apparent the Dutch considered JAN a citizen much later than ANTONY'S year of birth, it is logical to assume that his children would also be considered citizens. The early lack of recognition granted to the United Provinces in their bid for independence was ultimately rewarded for, when independence came; it included not only the territory of the Netherlands but also their colonies including New Netherlands. Thus we see that ANTONY who was Spanish by birth and half-Dutch by descent did competently claim the right to settle in the New Netherlands colony. There was little restriction placed on the settlers of the new colony in regard to nationality but the DWIC did specifically limit the granting of tenancy and the quasi-ownership of land in New Amsterdam to Dutch citizens from its inception until 1645 which places ANTONY within the group defined as Dutch citizens.

Sometime after 1624 ANTONY moved to Amsterdam and by 1629 he was living on *Haringpakkerij* near the *Haringpakkerstoren*, or Herring Packing storehouse that faced the harbor on the Ij. The *Haringpakkerstoren* had originally been the 15<sup>th</sup> century *Heilige Kruistoren*, the west tower of the city wall on the harbor. As the city expanded, the tower's function changed with it becoming the center of the herring packing industry. The tower had a small spire added; this was replaced in 1607 by one designed by HENDRICK DE KEYSER, the cities lead architect, and it became one of the city's most iconic structures. It was torn down in the 1830s but the harbor's east tower, the *Schreyhoeckstoren*, still stands squat and solid. ANTONY'S abode was not far from PIETER DEWYNTER'S tavern where GRIETJE REYNIERS worked as a barmaid.

## GRIETJE REYNIERS

Born around 1602, possibly in Amsterdam, her parents may have been JANNETJE and JOHANNES REYNIERS (spelling also given as REIJNIERS and REINIERS). Both parents are believed to have been born in the Netherlands, JANNETJE around 1580 and JOHANNES around 1576.<sup>5</sup>

The records of the *Gemeente-Archief* in Amsterdam show that on 26 September 1626 GRIETJE REYNIERS of Amsterdam, aged twenty-four years, parents unnamed, assisted by her cousin, HEYLTGE GERRITS SCHAECK, married AELBERT EGBERTS (born 1606, Wesel, Nordrhein-Westphaln, Germany)<sup>6</sup> from Haarlem, a tailor, aged twenty years, having no father, and assisted by his mother, HILLEGOND CORNELIS. The specifics of this first marriage are hazy but it may be they lived in Wesel (pronounced Ve'-zəl), a small town where the Lippe River joins the Rhine and only a short distance northwest of Cologne, though this is doubtful. Wesel was captured by Spanish forces in 1590 and served as the main Spanish supply base against the United Provinces during the Eighty Years War that ended in 1648.

Wesel was in the *Herzogtum Kleve* or Duchy of Cleves; this dukedom with several other small principalities were under the same rule and, taken together, practically encircled the Archbishopric of Cologne. The last Duke, JOHANN WILHELM, HERZOG ZU KLEVE, JULICH UND BERG (JOHN WILLIAM, DUKE OF CLEVES, JÜLICH AND BERG, 1562 – 1609) died without the requisite male heir to succeed him. A generation earlier many Amsterdammers had fled the tyranny of the Duke of Alba, military agent of the Spanish monarchy, with a considerable number finding Wesel an agreeable alternative so it is likely that both GRIETJE and AELBERT had some previous knowledge of the place before possibly relocating there. In the northwest the Duchy abutted the Netherlands and was occupied by the Dutch from about 1615 to 1672 when a resurrected army drove them out and invaded the Netherlands on the side of the English during the second Anglo-Dutch War. Though most of the land falls within Germany, a small portion of the original duchy lies within the Gelderland province of the Netherlands. The first person to hold the title of *Director-General* of New Netherlands, PETER MINUIT, was from Wesel.

AELBERT died before December 1627, leaving GRIETJE REYNIERS a twenty-five-year-old widow. There are no indications of the couple having any children inasmuch as GRIETJE does not appear with a child in later records. Of course we cannot say that she, in fact, did not have a child who either died young, was given to a family member to be raised or placed in an orphanage for adoption. Amsterdam's economy was thriving; wages in Amsterdam were almost twice as high as in Cologne. And while housing costs were higher, other costs of living, such as food and clothing, were lower, making Amsterdam a desirable option. Cleves was in the midst of civil unrest because the ducal throne was vacant and claims were being pressed by the neighboring principalities. Though technically split between the German principalities of Brandenburg and the Palatinate-Neuberg by the Treaty of Xanten in 1614, Dutch occupiers (the Dutch HOUSE OF ORANGE had a German seat at Nassau, and a weak claim too) remained in power until 1672. It was handed over to the HOHENZOLLERN Margraviate of Brandenburg after a six-year period of French rule by the Treaty of Nijmegen in 1678. GRIETJE set her sights on Amsterdam.

Amsterdam has been pushing the bounds of the societal norms for centuries. This pushing has always been strictly limited to the confines of the city, the thought being that since certain activities are going to occur, better to have them occur in one designated place where they can be more easily regulated. In no sphere was this more practiced than in sex at that time. While being a sexually adventurous place, Amsterdammers tend to hold less adventurous values. By 1628 GRIETJE landed a job as a barmaid in Pieter DeWinter's tavern on the *Haringpакkerij* near the *Haringpакkerstoren*. The tavern was a favorite of German travelers. PIETER ran the tavern for a number of years before he purchased the building for 8,600 guilders in January 1633. That thoroughfare is now *Prins Hendrikkade* and the tavern is at number 5 across from the train station. Perhaps to supplement her meager wages or to satisfy her own desires, GRIETJE's sexual mores at twenty-five years old could be called somewhat looser than that of the average young woman of her day (and even this day for that matter). Searching for an apparently missing barmaid, PIETER's wife TRIJNTJE PIETERS STRUYCK, checked the tavern's backroom and found GRIETJE with her "*petticoats about her knees*" – in the company of more than one High Dutch soldier. Not amused, TRIJNTJE saw to it that GRIETJE was fired and, in relating the story to the other tavern keepers, effectively blacklisted her. Whether or not this event ever happened is questionable as the sole source of the story comes from a *Declaration* of CORNELIS LAMBERSE COOL filed during a slander lawsuit in 1639 in the Court of Burgomasters and Schepens in New Amsterdam. At that time under Dutch law, such a Declaration wasn't subject to scrutiny – it was taken as fact; today, it is inadmissible as it is hearsay, unproven and irrelevant. Many have

related that there were two separate Declarations filed relating the same story. In fact, the second *Declaration* was filed by CLAES CORNELISSEN SWITS in which he states he was in Amsterdam at the time COOL claims to have heard about GRIETJE'S wardrobe dysfunction. COOL only confirms that GRIETJE was in Amsterdam at that time. Another affidavit submitted in this case claims that GRIETJE went aboard a ship and *pulled the shirts of some sailors out of their breeches* and, at her house, she *measured the male member of three sailors on a broomstick*.<sup>7</sup>

Another of GRIETJE'S antics that has been passed down to us is another unverifiable tale related in an affidavit referred to on 7 October 1638 that may possess a kernel of truth. As a ship of the Dutch Royal Navy was passing out of its East River anchorage into the Upper Bay, its deck was crowded with sailors waving to the almost-equally crowded quay. To GRIETJE'S presence the sailors exclaimed their fondness with a strange expression: "*Whore! Whore! Two-pounds butter whore!*" (Perhaps butter was expensive?) GRIETJE apparently responded by lifting her skirts, and maybe petticoats, soundly slapping her backside and exclaiming "*Kussen my dierbaar achterann!*" or something to that effect.<sup>8</sup> What to make of this tale? Reading the latest translation of this record gives more information. PHILIP DE TRUY made the declaration and in it he claimed that this occurred when the ship *Soutberch* was leaving New Amsterdam in 1633; he happened to be going to the Strand to *draw water*. From where he was, he could see and overhear the exchange between the sailors and GRIETJE, who was also on the Strand. Turns out that such an act was a common occurrence in Amsterdam – women routinely showed their displeasure or taunted others by lifting their skirts and slapping their bare bottoms. Placing such a story in its proper place and time certainly lends it some credence, but it has the distinct flavor of being just another one of the scandalous barbs aimed at GRIETJE and ANTONY in 1638 and 1639.

In the 1960s Amsterdam embarked on a program to resurrect their history and in an uncanny stroke of luck (for us) they chose DEWINTER'S tavern as one of their restoration projects – today we can walk into that very same tavern and go into the backroom where GRIETJE'S petticoat-dropping four hundred years ago was, at least in part, responsible for creating us! "*De restauratie (restoration) van Prins Hendrikkade 5*" is an article in the Amstelodamum Historical Society's periodical *Amstelodamum Maandblad* (1968, p. 182) describing the history of the building and its renovation; the original name of the house when it was built in 1623 was '*t Schip van Damiate*' (*Damietta's ship*). And our luck continues as there are plans to reconstruct the *Haringpakkerstoren* by 2012! A fictional biography of GRIETJE REYNIERS was written and published by MICHAEL PYE in 1996 called *The Drowning Room*. While being a great read, remember – it is a work of fiction!

## BACKGROUND: FISH & FUR

What was so interesting to attract investors? The great and not-so-great European explorers of the sixteenth century came looking for gold, silver and the elusive Northwest Passage to the Orient. These were supplanted by the Europeans that returned yearly to the North American shores to pilfer the enormous schools of cod off the coast of Newfoundland. Having minimal interaction with the Native Americans the Europeans none-the-less entered into a somewhat lack-luster trading economy with their temporary hosts while they were far from home. Their interactions increased due to furs. Fur was a commodity of immense importance throughout Europe that involved almost every class – but class determined the type of fur used and this was regulated by laws that called for no person to dress beyond their station in life; the

highest station was reserved for royalty of course. So ravenous was their appetite – KING HENRY IV of England had a nine-part robe made from eighty ermine and twelve thousand squirrel skins; one hundred and sixty skins of one sort or another wrapped ANNE, the bride of KING CHARLES VIII of France; and one gown of KING HENRY VIII of England held one hundred sable and five hundred sixty squirrel skins – that by the end of the sixteenth century the European fur supplies had been decimated (that sounds less gruesome than saying that they killed and skinned just about every living creature with fur, doesn't it?) and the Russian supply was faltering. Priced so far beyond the means of the populace – HENRY VIII's furry gown cost £200 at a time when one skilled craftsman at Eltham Palace would have to work for sixteen-and-a-half years to make that amount – the fur-trade became extremely lucrative as demand outstripped supply.

For these reasons the North American fur trade quickly assumed monumental importance for within it was the answer to the dwindling supply of poorer quality Russian furs. These skins provided the visible display that proved one's status in life; provided the means by which men of low birth could rise to the pinnacle of society – as long as all agreed that low birth and low income was equal; and, for many, redemption from being poorly-dressed, social outcasts and worse.

In 1599 KING HENRY IV of France granted monopoly rights in fur-trading along the Saint Lawrence River in New France to some French guys who quickly established the first permanent European settlement at Tadoussac, about 150 miles downriver from Quebec City. In 1606 KING JAMES I of England laid claim to all land from Cape Fear, North Carolina to Bangor, Maine including the right to all trade therein. The Crown proceeded to set up the various colonies – Virginia being the first in 1607 which was followed by Plymouth in 1621, Massachusetts Bay in 1629, and New Haven in 1638 which was absorbed and superseded by Connecticut in 1662 (Rhode Island was settled by religious dissenters and figured little in the fur trade). Bringing up not-quite-the-rear, the Dutch States General granted a fur-trading monopoly to last just four years, 1614 – 1618, to the New Netherlands Company for the area between roughly Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Bangor, Maine (never mind the fact that none of them actually owned those rights to grant). This wasn't actually a colony as the Dutch company held it in right of the English crown and under the authority of SAMUEL ARGOLE, the Governor of the Colony of Virginia. In 1623, the English patent was revoked because the Patentees did not improve the land as required. Seizing the opportunity to interfere with Spanish trade routes the Netherlands chartered the Dutch West India Company (DWIC, the Company) that same year. The primary mission of the DWIC was not commercial but military – they were charged with conducting a war on Spain, and, incidentally, raising the money for that war through trade that traversed the globe. By chartering private corporations to conduct the war, the States General was able to shift the costs of war from the public to the private sector. The Company chose the confluence of the East and the North Rivers for their North American trading post and New Amsterdam was born. New Netherlands was just a tiny part of the multinational DWIC. It controlled all Dutch interests of the whole of the Atlantic Ocean – the west coast of Africa, all of the islands and the whole of trade from all of the Americas.

Each of these ventures – business ventures – had investors looking for a nice profit – and the source of that profit from New Netherlands was furs. This fact alone helps to explain the reticence of these early European inhabitants to help each other, countryman or not, for, what secured the fur trade for one colony, threatened that same trade for all the others. Reduced trade meant reduced income meant reduced profits and an increase in colonial debts. And as this trade increasingly depended upon the transport of furs from the interior along the rivers, every venture

sent colonists further up the waterways to establish the trading post that the Natives would encounter first on the trip down the river. Each party in its bid for dominance would buy the land from the Native tribes (or any tribe for that matter) irrespective of anyone's "claims" to the land be they English, Dutch or French. With deed in hand, a trading outpost/fort would be hastily erected and the messiness of citizenship with its attendant tariffs, duties and taxes, would be decided at some future date. Competition leads to winners and losers and the first big loser in the fur trade was the Plymouth colony which was virtually shut-out of that commercial enterprise by 1640. Demand for pelts steadily increased and, as in Europe, then in Russia, so in British, French and Dutch North America – the supply faltered. Add to this manmade disaster the fact that the DWIC in 1629, with its primary military mission, commanded an income of fifty thousand guilders from New Netherlands furs and *twelve million* guilders from plundering the Spanish gold fleet in the Caribbean and it is easy to see why New Netherlands with its capital of New Amsterdam was treated as a backwater outpost – that's what it was. Dutch coinage included the gold *guilder* or *florin* which was equal to 20 copper *stuivers*. In 2012 U.S. currency a *stuiver* equaled about 13¢. While most traded within the confines of the legally-chartered monopolies, many did not – these were the self-employed English, the French *coureurs de bois* and the Dutch *boschlopers*. Even the DIRECTOR-GENERAL VAN TWILLER (1633 – 1638) made serious inroads into the DWIC's profits through this illegal trading in furs – not only the higher quality beaver and otter but also poor quality of the same plus mink and wild cat pelts and even rat skins!<sup>9</sup>

At the opening of the seventeenth century a fashion fad spelled disaster for the beaver. Heretofore considered a source of low quality fur, the beaver hat catapulted this undesirable to the most desirable in a matter of months – beaver-hat-madness struck Europe as fast and as fiercely as any hurricane has struck land. Their dense pelt, with more than twenty thousand hairs per square centimeter, was waterproof; it was warm; it was available and, in the right hands, made for hats of the softest felt.

The belief that these Europeans took advantage of the Native Americans, though prevalent, is incorrect in one significant way – the Native Americans thought *they* were the ones taking advantage of the Europeans! They were receiving highly-prized goods for what, in their eyes, was a plentiful and easily obtainable product. Each colonial venture developed their own trading partners – the French courted the Algonquin and Huron people while the Dutch favored the Mohegan to the east and the Mohawk, the largest, and easternmost, of the five tribes of the Iroquois League of Five Nations (the remaining four were the Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca) to their west. The mid-Atlantic Lenni-Lenape tribes traded more in local commodities – corn, pumpkins and various other foodstuffs – and acted as "middle men" between the Dutch and Mohawk with whom they were often at war. English traders partnered with many local tribes – the Pequot figured heavily in this trade until they were exterminated during the war that bears their name. But these partnerships were more than just commercial, they were also military alliances. The intertribal wars could be devastating and having a strong ally, especially one with lots of guns would seem to bode well for a tribe's continued prosperity if not existence. The Mohegans were virtually wiped out by the Mohawk during one such war in the early history of the colony; at one point, New Amsterdam was flooded with refugees seeking protection. As it happened, the Europeans did not bode well for anyone's prosperity or existence but their own for reasons other than the so-called Indian Wars. The Native population was destroyed by the infections brought across the Atlantic, not the guns. Upwards of 90% of the Native population of the northeastern seaboard had been wiped out before *any* centers of sufficient European population were established; in fact more than one tribe had been completely eradicated well

before the onset of any hostilities by pathogenic bullets rather than metal ones. This is a fact and function of nature; if there is culpability, might-as-well blame Darwin's "survival of the fittest" theory, though, in this case, the "fittest" meant "infectious" – a strange pairing indeed.

New France expanded westward and southward – along the Great Lakes and down the Mississippi all the way to the Gulf of Mexico (and that's why we have the state of Louisiana and not Charlesiana). New England *wanted* to expand but so did the King of England. To that end he chartered Hudson's Bay Company to check the growth of New France in the north (and make great blankets) and conquered New Netherlands out of which came New York and New Jersey which effectively shut out the New England colonies from territorial expansion. Meanwhile the southern English colonies expanded westward eventually coming to rest on the eastern banks of the Mississippi thus creating the three thousand mile long battle line from the Gulf of Mexico all the way to the Saint Lawrence River. The Iroquois effortlessly transferred their allegiance from Dutch to English and destroyed the French-leaning Huron (whose decimated ranks fled west) in the little-recalled Beaver Wars (the loss of Iroquois warriors put their own women on the warpath who forced their men to go grab some Hurons – how's *that* for irony?!).

With this background we are led to ask: Why give up living in Amsterdam, one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world? Especially since what our ancestors got in return was, basically, to hack out a living in the woods somewhere far, far away. Three reasons: social, religious, and economic. We have already explored the social aspect: GRIETJE was allegedly deemed too promiscuous, becoming a social outcast and unable to secure employment sometime in 1629. Now let's look at the remaining two reasons.

Despite the known and much-touted religious liberty of the United Provinces, religious intolerance was the norm. But with the fight for independence well-advanced by the 1620s, those practicing the faith of their Spanish enemy, Roman Catholicism, were targets. The adherents of Islam were much worse off – being a Muslim, ANTONY was handicapped in all his ventures – the large corporations were not predisposed to hire a ship captain that wasn't a member of the Dutch Reformed Church, or at least a Protestant. Opportunities to own property and businesses were restricted too. As an incentive to move to their new outpost, the DWIC initially offered a *bouwery* to settlers who agreed to certain stipulations. This was a tract of land *with a house built by the Company* for the occupant, the title to which would be transferred to the occupant after 6 years working that land. The main details of the agreement included transport, at Company expense, to the colony from Amsterdam for the farmer and his family and a 6-year lease on a tract of land that had been partially cleared and *a good part of which was fit for the plough* – this was the *bouwery* – for an annual rent of 100 guilders and *80 pounds of butter*. The Company furnished a house and barn, farming implements and tools, four horses, four cows as well as sheep and pigs *in proportion*. The farmer was required to improve the property by draining swamps and building fences to prevent the livestock from roaming the town. At the end of the six year lease, the title to the land and the buildings was transferred to the farmer. It was expected that the number of cows would have increased over this period and half of the number above the 4 originally given to the farmer became Company property and the original 4 were returned to the Company. The other half of any increase belonged to the farmer. If there were less than four, the loss was equally shared between Company and farmer.<sup>10</sup> The end result was outright ownership of the house that the Company provided plus the land it sat on after six years of work. Property ownership was a major benefit in a society where certain rights appertained only to those of the landed class. They were afforded free transportation and cheap or free

livestock upon arrival. This will be explained in greater detail on in a subsequent section as ANTONY probably did avail himself of this opportunity early on. Settlers taking advantage of this offer were free to pursue the livelihood of their choice; the sole monopoly reserved to the Company was the fur trade which they maintained until 1639. Despite the reduction of protective trade policies that began in 1639, the DWIC remained the de facto government and everything that was shipped to or from the colony had to travel between Amsterdam and New Amsterdam, with the DWIC collecting fees and duties, as mandated by the Company, at both places. It was left to the DIRECTOR-GENERAL to decide how large a tract was granted to a new resident, usually based on family size; where that tract would be located and what crops were to be planted. These small tracts, usually less than ten acres, where tobacco and Indian corn were grown, were of two types: a *plantation* and a *bouwery*. The farmer only cultivated plantation lands while he actually lived on a bouwery. The plantations were usually farther from the fort but some of each type grew into small business concerns on which all sorts of crops were grown and livestock kept which laid the foundations for some of the outlying villages. All that remains of these earliest tracts is the English corruption of their style – the Bowery. This placed the Company at cross-purposes with its own settlers: The DWIC had been chartered to conduct war and to finance that war, they were granted a monopoly on the fur trade and accordingly, they wanted the settlers, who were their employees as far as they were concerned, to provide furs. The settlers quickly realized that the Company greatly undervalued fur pelts and overcharged for everything in the one Company-owned store in town where prices were higher than in Amsterdam! The settlers, forced to generate income by farming and other businesses such as tavern and innkeeper, blacksmith, shoemaker, ship building and repair to be able to pay the high Company prices, soon found another lucrative source of income – trading furs on the black market. In the summer of 1629 the DWIC was able to act on changes for the colony that had been under development over the previous year. The major change was the introduction of *patroonships*, a huge tract of land covering hundreds and even thousands of acres and stretching a distance of sixteen miles along any riverbank, or eight miles along opposite banks, that stretched back from the river *as far as the situation of the occupiers will permit*. The owner, or *patroon*, had unlimited jurisdiction over the land provided he brought fifty settlers who agreed to be bound to the land for ten years to the colony. Again, an upward movement on the social ladder was a much sought benefit – one who had the resources to invest in becoming a *patroon* was typically a *burgher* of the city who was thwarted in his desire to move to the highest class in Dutch society – the landed nobility with all the hereditary rights the accrued to that class. There was no land available at home and this was a way to rectify that. Once a *patroon*, they were accorded all the titles and trappings that went along with being a *noble*. The DWIC hoped others would be as successful as they had been with their private purchase of Manhattan which served as the model for these mini-fiefdoms. The plan was adopted by the ruling *Council of XIX* of the DWIC in June 1629 and was forwarded to the States-General, receiving its support within a couple months. The plan was formally announced to the public in October wherein five *patroonships* were offered for sale on Staten Island, in New Jersey and near Albany. How public the announcement was is unclear and, even if it was very public, the directors of the Company were the sole investors in the plan, having secured for themselves their *patroonships* well before their sale was announced. All five were sold and each *patroon* began lining up settlers, or more correctly serfs, for their little kingdoms. As these settlers were required to work the land and make a profit for the *patroon*, who, in turn, provided housing, protection and other necessities, this is the only time that European-style *feudalism* existed in the New World; ironically imported from Holland which, itself, never had a true



serfdom though the landed nobility did hold a great deal of power in their hands. A second change, announced simultaneously, was the offer to any *private person* absolute ownership of all the land they could *properly improve* as long as it was located outside of Manhattan and the 5 *patroonships*. They were also to have *free liberty of hunting and fowling* and anyone who *discovered shores, bays, or other fit places for erecting fisheries, or the making of salt ponds was promised an absolute and exclusive property in their discovery*. These changes were made public in October, though they weren't available in print until early 1630, caused a resurgence in interest in New Netherlands and, given the fact that the Amsterdam chapter of the DWIC was responsible for the New Netherlands colony (Coat-of-Arms at right), there had to be a lot of talk about it among that city's population. This is likely the way in which ANTONY's interest was piqued. Overall, the ambitious plans proved a failure; there were few, if any, *private persons* so inclined and the *patroons* who enjoyed the greatest privileges were also directors of the DWIC, placing the goals of both at odds with each other. The *patroons* wanted the greatest returns on their investments and to do so, favored a broad interpretation of their charters while the DWIC, desirous to maintain their monopolies in trade and furs, demanded a narrow interpretation. By 1635 the Company decided that the repurchase of the *patroonships* was the cheapest way to extricate themselves from what had deteriorated into a series of expensive legal battles between the directors representing the DWIC and some of those same men as *patroons*. *Rensselaerswijck*, owned by KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER, north of Manhattan on the Hudson near Fort Orange, was the sole success story.<sup>11</sup> RENSSELAER's heirs maintained their right to govern until 1784 and it wasn't until 1844 that the leasehold tenants were freed from their bond to the owners due to changes in state law. The DWIC's fortunes plummeted and by 1644, the company was bankrupt and hoping to merge with their very successful counterpart, the *Dutch East India Company*.



So it would seem that 1629 was a good time for ANTONY and GRIETJE to leave Amsterdam. The new world offered them, or was advertised to offer them, limitless opportunities to advance ones station in the world. They knew each other, probably from DEWINTER's tavern, as ANTONY lived nearby. How serious they were involved can't be said for certainty but if they wanted to marry, they couldn't in Amsterdam without ANTONY accepting the Dutch Reformed Church's authority to perform the ceremony, or, at the least, one of the other Protestant religions deemed "acceptable" by the authorities, an act which violated the tenets of his own religion. Whether or not they knew they could not be married in New Amsterdam for these same reasons isn't known for sure but, with what occurred, it seems they probably did. Taking advantage of a loophole in the marriage laws, they obtained a license to marry before embarking and, while at sea (without a Dutch Reformed minister onboard) were married by the captain of the ship. The records of the Gemeente-Archief in Amsterdam also show that on 15 December 1629 GRIETJE REYNERS, from Wesel, Germany, widow of AELBERT EGBERTS for over two years, and ANTONY JANSZ, seaman from Cartagena, aged twenty-two years, parents not named, received a certificate allowing them to get married "on board." And so they were, before they landed in the New World and their new life. (Contrary to what many authors have written GRIETJE did *not* sail on the *Soutberg* as the minister's mistress!)

The first leg of their voyage from Amsterdam to New Amsterdam would be reminiscent of the first leg of the voyages of ANTONY's father JAN JANSEN VAN HAARLEM to the Canary Islands. With good winds, the trip lasted three months; if the winds failed, four months or longer.



From Amsterdam the ships made their way across the wide inland sea called the *IJ*, with its treacherous shoals, to the windswept island of Texel. From this desolate place, the last point of the Dutch Republic proper, they launched into the North Sea and upon reaching the ocean, turned south either hugging the coast or giving a wide berth to landfall depending on the geopolitical climate dominant – Portugal would be kept a safe distance away – the first leg of the voyage would have the ship skirting the Canary Islands, as the war between the United Provinces and Spain had flared up again in 1621. This Spanish outpost was where JAN JANSEN had business concerns and was a part-time resident at some time between 1609 and 1618; in that year, so he later claimed, he lost his freedom during a raid by Algerian corsairs who sold him into slavery. Quite a feat considering he was the pilot for another Dutch renegade, SULEIMAN REİS, the commander of the raid! Catching the trade winds, the ship sailed on a long and forbidding southwest arc across the Atlantic, completing this second leg by swinging north of the Bahamas. The last leg of the voyage hugged the North American coastline while a sharp lookout was kept for the hooked peninsula we know as Sandy Hook, New Jersey that marked the entrance to the great harbor.

They may have been relieved to sail through the Narrows and into the bay off the southern end of *Mana-hatta* after braving what could only have been a cramped, cold, wet, rough and dangerous winter voyage lasting several weeks; they were probably disappointed soon thereafter. What greeted the newlyweds when their ship sailed through the bay and dropped anchor in the cold and choppy waters of the East River in late February or early March 1630? Their relief at dropping anchor was replaced with dismay at the reality. What they saw bore little resemblance to the quaint, thriving town depicted in Company brochures – the “Fort” existed on paper only as did the rest of the town. What they did see was a square dirt wall surrounding a counting house made of stone where the Company stored pelts on the southern tip of the island. Around this were huddled about thirty log houses, mostly on the south side of the “Fort” and at its southwest corner was the Company sawmill and windmill. Supplementing these structures were several rude houses made of bark, a few small sheds and fewer barns. The total number of houses was, perhaps, seventy-five for the two hundred seventy Company employees and family members. “Streets” consisted of muddy walking paths from the dwellings to the Company store and office near or in the “Fort.” French was the predominant language though this would quickly change. Supplies sent to build a proper Fort had to be used to build these log houses by order of PETER MINUIT who served as DIRECTOR-GENERAL between 1626 and 1632. To set foot on land they would be ferried from their ship; the shallow river bank required all ships to drop anchor perhaps four to five hundred feet offshore. Several large, black boulders just offshore, submerged at high tide and hard to see at low, protected the Fort from a river-based assault. So there, in a snapshot, is the New Amsterdam that greeted our ancestral couple that cold day in 1630.

In a few short years they would have been greeted with a different view all together: from a ship they would first see the spire of the Dutch Reformed Church within the dirt walls of Fort Amsterdam and the windmill on the southwest bastion and finally the line of small, clapboard homes and businesses lining the Strand. Most sketches and woodcuts from the early years of the outposts’ existence were drawn from the perspective of a ship at anchor in the East River, placing the Fort to the left and what would become the palisade, the future Wall Street, to the right. These depictions, more often than not, present the place as a tidy, bustling, organized village – which it was not. That this is fact is shown by comparing the actual sketch of the town used by the Company to print a brochure with a much-enhanced picture of the town.

The most prominent structure at the south end of town was Fort Amsterdam while there was no clear-cut limit to the north end which opened to the rest of the island for the first five years that ANTONY and GRIETJE lived there. She would always be GRIETJE REYNIERS, never GRIETJE JANSEN VAN SALÉE, no matter how many husbands she had as the Dutch custom was for a married woman to retain her own name throughout her life. The north end was defined in 1635 by a minimally-defensive ditch and earthen wall which was later strengthened by the erection of the palisade along the future Wall Street in 1653.

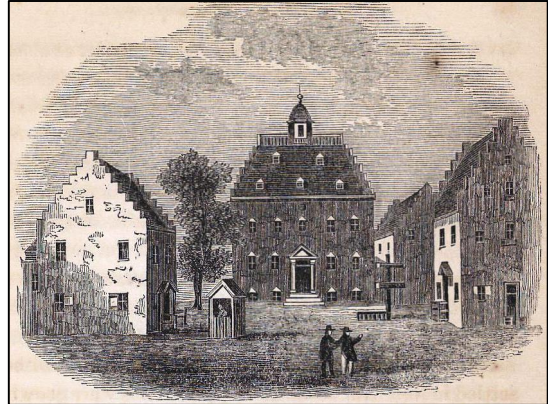
Fort Amsterdam was a small affair situated on a slight rise on the southwest tip of the island. The Fort was designed in 1628 by Company engineer CRIJN FREDERICXSZ who arrived in 1625; it would be seven years before it was finished though it only took two years to build. MINUIT was briefly followed by SEBASTIAEN JANSEN KROL as DIRECTOR-GENERAL (1632 – 1633) but construction wasn't started until 1633 when the Company sent a party of skilled workmen (masons, brick layers, carpenters) with the new DIRECTOR-GENERAL, WOUTER VAN TWILLER, who, despite holding the position of Company clerk before this, would remain for five years. The plans called for masonry walls inside with dirt outside topped with a wooden palisade, but because of time constraints and the deplorable living conditions, it wasn't built that way; the first Fort was basically four long mounds of dirt forming a square with two gaps, one facing east towards the town and the other opening north onto *De Heere-straet*, later called *Breedeweg* (Broadway). The massive stone forts and castles of earlier centuries had proven ineffective against cannon fire – the impact of projectiles literally shook the walls into piles of rubble. A strong defense was had by walls that would absorb and diffuse such impacts and one of the best, and most readily available, was dirt. The walls of the Fort were undermined by two facts: many of the town's inhabitants refused to fence in their tracts meaning the streets were crowded with wandering livestock. The pig population had a preference for rooting at the base of the Fort's walls. Even if there were gates to close, which there weren't, a person could easily walk into the Fort from any direction. The Fort's windmill provided power for the saw mill and was first located on or near the southwest bastion according to the earliest depictions; it was replaced with a second one closer to the northwest bastion in the late 1630s. Within the Fort were the houses of the DIRECTOR-GENERAL and SECRETARY, the soldier's barracks; a hospital and school, a small church, storerooms for weapons and supplies and room to conduct a market if necessary.

Providing a secure base for the Company's officials to operate from was one of the reasons to build a fort, another was defending the settlement from attack. To do this the Fort was armed with 8 *bombards* or heavy cannon with flaring barrels; 6 *culverins*, very long, slim guns with handles on both sides for carrying; and 7 *serpentes*, thin, long guns with a grooved barrel to cause the projectiles to whirl around. Eventually this Fort, of highly-suspect usefulness, was rebuilt under DIRECTOR-GENERAL PETRUS "PEG LEG" STUYVESANT in the 1650s. The walls were about 200' on each side with large, pointed bastions extending out from each corner that almost doubled the length of each side. The rebuilt Fort had brick walls inside while packed dirt topped with sod covered the outside; this was topped with a log palisade. STUYVESANT questioned the defensive power afforded by the now-decrepit second windmill and had it replaced in 1652 by several more cannon in the fort, making for a total of 44, which offered significantly more protection than either windmill had ever done. A new windmill was built just outside the Fort's Broadway gate. STUYVESANT had mud bulwarks faced with clam shells thrown up outside the Fort along the river creating protective batteries. These were soon covered with grass and later sycamore trees took root, creating the earliest Battery Park which still functions today much as it did then – as a peaceful public space to be enjoyed by the residents and visitors.

Immediately outside the north gate of the Fort was a parade field, whose pared-down version is called Bowling Green to this day. Outside the east gate was the public market or *het marcktveld* where livestock and produce were sold or bartered in the earliest years. On 1641 the Director-General ordered two fairs to be held each autumn – the first in October *for live stock of all kinds, one in November for swine*.<sup>12</sup> *Het Marcktveld-steegie* (Market Field Lane) ran from the Hudson River along the north edge of the market, continuing to the canal (Broad Street); it was also referred to as Petticoat Lane. The eastern edge of the market place was defined by *Beurs-straet*, meaning Exchange Street; it would become Whitehall Street under the English, named after the warren of buildings, gardens and haphazard additions that served as the STUART'S winter palace in London. As already described, the first houses were built south of the Fort on the shoreline in a haphazard fashion in a small spit of land called the *Capsey*; this was the landward point where the North, later Hudson, and East Rivers met. These *Capsey-straet* houses, protected from the cold north wind by the walls of the Fort, were continued northward on *Langs Strant* along the East River. Eventually the name *Capsey-straet* was abandoned in favor of *Langs Strant* (today's Water Street). The first section of *Paerel-straet* was south of the Fort, west of *Beurs-straet* and one block in from the East River and the *Langs Strant*. The next section extended east from *Beurs-straet* to the *Herren-gracht* (Broad Street) and was first called the *Langs Strant* which became the *Paerel-straet* of this part of town. East of the *Herren-gracht* the riverside area was called the *Langs de Wal* (meaning Wharf or Dock Street) which, around 1650, became the third section of *Paerel-straet* which ran all the way to the wall. The origin of the name *Paerel-straet* is debated: Some claim it came from the long lines of discarded oyster shells along the river banks as they were much enjoyed by the *Manates*, the native Munsee tribe. Others claim its origin arose from the most popular activity that the lane could boast of – *pearling* or the harvesting of pearls from the oysters in the shallow riverbed. Notably, the first version makes no mention of pearls so Oyster Street or Shell Street would be logical names; thus the second seems more plausible, more so if you overlook the fact that the oldest section of *Paerel-straet*, west of *Beurs-straet*, was a block inland from the river and its oyster beds. When our ancestors lived there it was just known as the *Langs Strant* meaning *Waterside*, a wide, muddy tidal area stretching back from the riverbank to the first row of buildings; the need for street names only followed on the heels of more land transactions. There was a feeble attempt at making the lanes closest to the river bank more passable by using the shells from the huge oyster beds as a primitive paving. Bulkheads on the East River and the city's first small public dock across from VAN TIENHOVEN'S storehouse were built along the Waterside wharf in the late 1640s transforming the muddy shoreline into the much-more-useable Dock (later Pearl) Street. The filling in of the riverbed that placed Pearl Street three blocks from the river would not begin for another few decades.

Paddling down the creek that flowed down the center of this part of the island one would follow its gentle curve to the left about a half-mile before emptying into the East River. The upper part of the creek passed through a sizeable marsh which presented a health problem. A canal was dug along the creek bed from *Bever-straet* (Beaver Street) to the East River more-effectively drain the swampy area and to help contain the creek when it was swollen. The Dutch are still noted for their canal-building expertise as even a casual glance at Amsterdam confirms. This was named the *Herren-gracht* (Gentleman's Canal), probably as a mockery, but was commonly called just the *Gracht*. The lanes on either side of the *Herren-gracht* were designated as *oost zyde* and *west zyde* (east side and west side). By the mid-1630s it was a smelly sewer at low tide as several taverns and breweries lined its western aspect (the town boasted 17 taphouses

by 1647!) while at high tide it could be navigated into the heart of the town up to an intersecting, smaller canal running west along *Bever-straet* called the *Begijn-gracht*. The *Herren-gracht* was an annoying obstacle to moving easily about town which was rectified when three bridges were finally built over the *Gracht* in 1651. Each bridge continued a lane that started near the Fort on today's Broadway and ended at the canal (or today's Broad Street): one block from the river was *Brugh-straet* (Bridge Street), two blocks in was *Brouwer-straet* (Brewer's Street until 1672, then Stone Street after being the first to be paved) and four blocks in was *Bever-straet* and the *Begijn-gracht*. (Three blocks in was *Het*



*Marcktveld-steegie*, Market Field Lane, aka Petticoat Lane) The canal resulted in a disjointed town: the streets running west of the canal to the fort were joined to their counterparts on the east side of the canal by the bridges but those on the east had different names - *Brouwer-straet* was continued by *Hoog-straet* (High Street) east of the canal while *Bever-straet* was continued by *Prinsen-straet* (Prince Street); there was no continuation of *Brugh-straet* as it ran at an odd angle which placed its eastern end close to *Paerel-straet*. Street names were not officially sanctioned until the late 1650s which is reflected in property descriptions which contain no street names. In 1664, under English rule, the street names east of the canal were changed to match their counterparts on the west, Stone Street and Beaver Street; while Beaver remained steady, Stone became Duke Street for about a century beginning in 1691. There was no equivalent of Bridge Street east of the *Gracht* to change names but, none-the-less, Bridge Street between the *Gracht* and the Fort appears as Hull Street on a 1695 map – it soon reverted to Bridge. A fourth bridge spanned the *Begijn-gracht* where it met the *Gracht*. While giving the town a feel somewhat, however distant, reminiscent of Amsterdam, these bridges, great for foot traffic, hampered the navigability of the *Gracht*: larger craft could only go as far as the first bridge at *Brugh-straet* while smaller craft could go to *Brouwer-straet* and the smallest boats and canoes could paddle to the end of the *Gracht* and even into the *Begijn-gracht*. The several small, clapboard houses of the inhabitants filled in these lanes. On the east side of the *Gracht* homes continued along the *Langs de Wal* or *Strand* up the East River to the palisade on today's Wall Street; this riverside stretch was, confusingly, called the *Wall*, though it was meant to be called the *Wharf*; it became a part of the ever-lengthening *Paerel-straet*. The whole of the East River shoreline was called the *Strand* with the part between the Fort and the *Gracht* being the *Waterside* and the rest of the *Strand* east of the *Gracht* being the *Wharf* but called the *Wall*. The rest of the Lower Eastside contained six farms often called *bouweries* that were laid out by the Company no later than 1628. These were not the same as the later, and much larger, *bouweries* however. To the north of the Fort a few houses were on the east side of *De Heere-straet* (Broadway) which allowed for free use of the Fort's cannons. The Company farm was on the west side of *De Heere-straet* and extended to the North River on the Lower Westside. The streets of lower Manhattan seem random and unstructured to many people but such is the opinion of only the uninformed. Company engineer FREDERICXSZ designed the curve of the streets to stop the wind coming off the rivers from being funneled by the buildings into the gale-force winds with their often destructive gusts frequently encountered today in the grid layout to the north.

In 1641 the DWIC under KIEFT built the great stone tavern *Stadt Herbergh* on the site which was fronted by *Coenties Slip*. This became the *Stadt Huys*, literally State House, or city hall in 1653 when the outpost became a municipality under STUYVESANT.<sup>13</sup> There were whipping posts and a stockade in front to which STUYVESANT added a gallows. There are references to a modified gallows whose goal it would seem was to embarrass rather than kill. One sentenced to this gallows still had a rope fastened around him or her, but it was fastened around their waist not their neck. Once fastened, they would be hoisted aloft for a period of time in which there they hung, swinging in the breeze, much to the amusement of the inhabitants.

The continual erosion of the shore in front of the *Stadt Huys* caused the building of a seawall which was extended along the East River to connect to the palisade at Wall Street. Three small half-moon forts called *rondeels* which mounted 2 cannons each were placed along Pearl Street east of the ditch: one in front of the *Stadt Huys*, one where the palisade on Wall Street met Pearl and one between these two. The use of slips instead of piers was favored in New York: slips were extensions of landfill at the ends of streets perpendicular to the shoreline that allowed ships to sail into the small inlet and unload directly onto the street extensions. Piers, in contrast, were built on pilings that extended out into the water. These slips were followed by building larger ones adjacent to the original in the unfilled river. These allowed for larger ships to dock easily while, simultaneously, addressing the issue of the silting up of the older slips which rendered them obsolete. The original slip was then filled in with large parcels of land that often became the site of markets due to the ease with which farmers could easily dispose of their produce and livestock. While the New England colonies would wait decades before any markets were built, New Amsterdam had a market house at the mouth of the *Heere-gracht* by the mid-1650s and a meat market, with a tiled roof, in front of the Fort before 1660. A six-week-long cattle fair was held every autumn in front of the Fort. This was a free-market affair during which locals and others could freely trade without fear of reprisals by the Company. Extremely successful, it attracted farmers from as far away as Stamford in the New Haven Colony who brought their flocks and herds for over thirty years to conduct business. Today's City Hall Park at Broadway and Chambers hearkens back to colonial days for it was here that the much larger common-lands called *de vlackte* (the flat) were reserved for the use of residents to pasture their cattle.<sup>14</sup>

In 1635 the southern tip of Manhattan was separated from the rest of the island by a ditch and earthen wall that stretched from the East River to the Hudson River, at that time a distance of almost 1,800 feet. With the Fort not being large enough to house all the inhabitants in times of unrest, it was decided to build the well-known palisade along what would become Wall Street. The length of the palisade wall that was built in 1653 is usually given as 2,500 feet but this includes the 700 feet of the wall that ran along the North River. This defensive structure afforded the residents a measure of protection – not so much from the Natives but from the English whom the Dutch were often at war with. Made of logs buried about three feet deep and a pointed free end, the wall reached a height of ten feet. Outside the wall was a ditch or moat measuring ten feet across and four feet deep while dirt was piled up against the inside to create a five foot high platform for soldiers to fire from. Running along the inside of the wall was a thoroughfare named *Het-Cingle*. There were two gates: the *Water-Poort* at the east end located now where Pearl and Wall Streets intersect and the *Land-Poort* located where *Breede-weg* (Broadway) now meets Wall Street. Named *De Heere-straet* in the first decades, Broadway continued north of this ornate main gate as a wide lane on which could be found the homes of slaves, servants and the poor. A bell in the belfry of the church within the Fort would ring at 9 pm every night to signify

the closing of the gates in the palisade. Between the gates were block houses at about 300' intervals with up to six ports facing north for defenders to fire their harquebus, a forerunner of the shotgun, through. A bastion was built where the wall met the river – the Fly Blockhouse at the East and the Northwest Blockhouse at the North (Hudson).

Fresh water was obtained from a well now at Chatham and Orange Streets which was carted into the city and sold to each house separately. A second source further north was the Collect Pond or *Kolch* which was eventually filled in becoming the marshy ground upon which the Hall of Justice was built. Once finished with use the dirty water was dumped into the *Gracht* which became a polluted cesspool within a few years.

**Note on dating:** the Dutch, since 1582, had used the *Gregorian* calendar in which the first day of the year was *January 1<sup>st</sup>*; the English clung to the old *Julian* system which had the first day as *March 25<sup>th</sup>*. Because of this, events occurring between January 1 and March 24 are double-dated such that January 5<sup>th</sup> is in 1635/36, meaning 1635 in the Julian system and 1636 in the Gregorian. This has often been only retroactively applied, such that the actual record bears a single year but it is indexed as a double-year in order to easily find documentation of events that occurred in what is the current understanding of the year, say, 1652; e.g. a person dies in what we understand to be January 1652 after which probate is filed the following month – if that occurred in English territory, the probate would be dated February 1651 (*old* or *Julian*). At the time any record was made, it was up to that person to decide if he or she was going to use a double-year designation or not. The conversion of years by later researchers and writers should be accurate though, in practice, it is not, most noticeably when an English person is using Dutch records. Even records made at the time, especially those between March 25 and March 31, are often incorrectly dated; March 24, 1667 was followed by March 25, 1668 in English records though the change in year is often overlooked with 1667 being used until April 1<sup>st</sup>. As an additional complication to this double-year is that, with the conversion from Julian to Gregorian during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, came 10 additional days such that February 4, 1640 (*Julian* or *Old Style, o.s.*) was the same day as February 14, 1641 (*Gregorian* or *New Style, n.s.*). Most records generated in this period ignore the 10-day difference as far as their own dating but a specific event that is recorded in English and Dutch records will bear dates that are 10 days apart. During the 18<sup>th</sup> century this difference increased to 11 days.

## PROPERTY

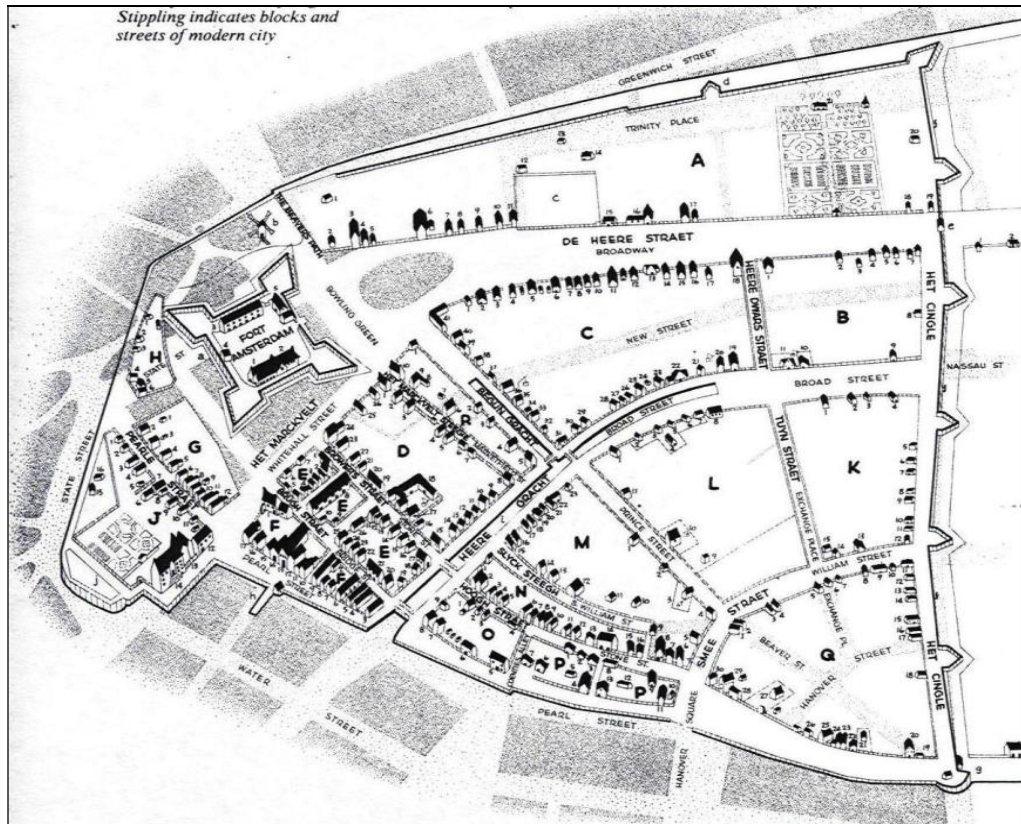
A problem with land records of the time involvements measurements. The most common linear measurements found are the *rod*, *foot* and *inch* but it is a loose correlation with today's measurements. An *Amsterdam roede* measured 11' 10" (versus the 16' for an English *rod*) and was divided into 13 *voet* that were slightly less than 11" each. Each *voet* had 11 *duim* that corresponds to our inch. A *Rijnland roede* was 12' 4" and had 12 *voet* which were just over 12" long and contained 12 *duim*. Some patents are more specific like those for relatives of STUVESANT where the measurement is in *Rhenish rods* and in CORNELIUS VAN TIENHOVEN'S patent it is by *Rynland measure*. When measurement is only in feet in the later patents, the qualification *Holland measure, of eleven inches the foot* is found. Likewise, measurements of area varied from place to place, the most common being *morgen* and *rod* (it had two different, but related, meanings). The *morgen* was the area a man could plough in a *morning* which varied greatly depending on the terrain and soil. Since the English *acre* was the amount a man could plough in a *day* it was considered to be about equal to 2 *morgens*. But the Dutch language

equivalent of *akker* measured closer to 2 regular or English acres, i.e. 4 *morgens*. A rod, or *roede*, as a measurement of volume, meant a *square roede* and, since a linear *roede* varied, so did a *square roede*. The most commonly used was the *Rijnland roede* which, at 17.8 square yards, was slightly larger than its counterpart in Amsterdam which was 16.1 square yards. Many of the early land records that have been translated give the measurement in *acres* without stating if the original used *morgens* or *akkers*. Without the original, it is impossible to know how the translation was made. If *morgens* were used and *acres* given, which ratio was used, 4:1 or 2:1? If the record used *akker*, did they do a straight translation to *acre* or did they include the 1:2 ratio for Dutch:English acres; how did they determine which one was the right method? Furthermore, we don't know what the DWIC used – the more common Rijnland measurements or the Amsterdam ones where their headquarters was located. Dutch coinage included stuivers, schillings and guilders worth about \$0.13, 0.52 and 2.60 respectively.

The earliest of the following properties are the most difficult to identify as to location and date of occupancy. There are no primary records; the information has been gleaned from records generated at a later date. Also, deeds did not exist as such as all land belonged to the Company; what records did exist were agreements between an individual and the DWIC to occupy and improve certain lots, followed by transfers between individuals with Company approval. These records were part of the Company's business records and were removed to its headquarters where they languished for over a century. The fastidiousness of the Dutch finally arrived at Company headquarters and almost all of the early records, including the infamous deed for STUYVESANT'S purchase of Manhattan for 60 guilders, were destroyed.

**RESIDENCES:** From a view of the town we now move to our ancestor *in* the town. They had three properties (*G, N and E blocks*) that were supposed to be residential with space for a small amount of agriculture and one property (*M block*) that was strictly agricultural. One of the combination lots that ANTONY had no buildings on it and the agricultural land was not developed. In the first couple of decades property was assigned for the asking, there was no real estate market per se and land was, literally, dirt cheap. This was changing by the 1650s with the first real estate boon coming right after the status of property ownership changed from long lease, Company-owned parcels to private ownership.



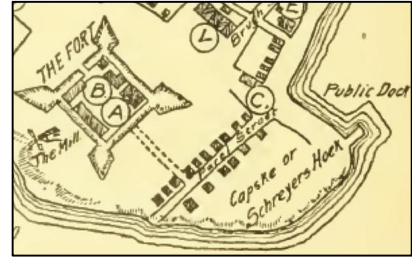


### **Paerel-straet, South of the Fort – G block**

ANTONY and GRIETJE'S first residence for which there is documentation was on the *capsey*, the hook of land south of the Fort where the East and North Rivers meet (North River was the Dutch name for the Hudson River and it remains in colloquial use to the present; the Hudson ends where it joins the Mohawk River to form the North River according to some descriptions then). Named *Schreyer's Hook* or *Schreijer's Hoek* the rivers around the *capsey* have been massively filled in and now Battery Park lies to the south. While the records appear to indicate they lived there in the mid-1640s, they date to a later period and may have been generated to show who the known tenants or owners were *prior* to the mid-1640s, rather than being a list of owner's *in* the mid-1640s when the first patents were issued to individuals. Of course, deciding when they lived there became much easier when I realized I had 'misfiled' a deed (in my brain that is) as pertaining to a solely agricultural tract when, in fact, it also held their dwelling but, more on that later. The first residences were built in the 1620s immediately east and south of the Fort but these were all Company occupied sites. When this changed in the mid-1640s was when the first patents were issued which is misleading inasmuch as the patentees may have lived on the property for 2 decades before a patent was issued. A map purported to show the earliest three tenants of lots south of the Fort, has just three lots west of *Beurs-straet*, between the river and the Fort. Starting at *Beurs-straet* (now Whitehall Street) and heading west, the three were LAMERT VAN VALKENBERGH, JAN EVERTSEN BOUT, and SERGEANT HUYBERTSEN. In 1640 *Paerel-straet* ran along the bank of the East River between the Fort and the ditch; it dead-ended into the middle of these lots on *Beurs-straet* side (marked C on small map following). In the 1630s it was continued through to what is now State, dividing each of the three lots into a north and south lot



which, in turn, were subdivided into twenty-four lots: sixteen north of *Paerel-straet* that reached the Fort, and eight south of *Paerel-straet*. The southern edge of the properties towards the river soon gave way to a thoroughfare named the *Langs Strant*.<sup>15</sup> Some think this subdivision was a result of the influx of refugees seeking safety during *Kieft's War* but it occurred before 1639 which disproves that belief. A list of the owners, created after-the-fact, of the sixteen lots north of *Paerel-straet*, starting at *Beurs-straet* and heading west, starts with the same LAMERT VAN VALKENBERGH and JAN EVERTSEN BOUT; they are followed by BARENT JANSEN, MICHAEL PAULUZEN, ANTONY JANSEN, JOCHEM PIETERSEN and ten others whose lots ran to the present day State Street. The patents describe the parcels as they were in 1647 and are not reflective of the original three lots. At least, this is the most common assumption made regarding ownership and location of these lots. From this list alone, we cannot pinpoint these lots exactly but we know from the map that BOUT's lot was east of HUYBERTSEN'S. In a woodcut from this time, these houses are shown to be of clapboard construction which was how some of the earliest dwellings were made (as already mentioned, the first were either of logs or bark). It seems that ANTONY and GRIETJE'S occupancy here ended in 1639. On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May in that year, ANTONY sold his property south of the Fort with a house and barn as well as an orchard:



*This day, the 7<sup>th</sup> May Anno 1639, before me, CORNELIS VAN TIENHOVEN, Secretary of New Netherland, came and appeared in their proper persons, ANTONY JANSEN VAN VEES, of the one part, and BARENT DIRCKSEN baker, of the other part, and acknowledged in the presence of the undersigned witnesses, to have agreed and contracted in amity and friendship about the purchase of the Bowery hitherto occupied by ANTONY JANSEN, situate near Fort Amsterdam, bounded westerly by HENDRIC JANSEN, tailor, and eastward by PHILIP DE TRUY, on the conditions and terms here underwritten.*

*First said ANTONY JANSEN shall deliver, as he now is doing to BARENT DIRCKSEN aforesaid, who also acknowledges to have bought and this day received from said ANTONY the land as it is sowed and fenced, the house and barn, together with all that is fastened by earth and nail, except the cherry, peach and all other trees standing on said land, which said ANTONY reserves for himself and will remove at a more seasonable time, one stallion of two years, one ditto of one year, 1 wagon, plough, and one harrow with wooden teeth.*

*For all which BARENT DIRCKSEN shall pay to said ANTONY JANSEN the sum of fifteen hundred and seventy guilders to be paid in two consecutive years; immediately after the receipt of what is aforesaid, he BARENT DIRCKSEN shall pay to said ANTONY JANSEN, or his order, one just fourth part of the above mentioned money, and 6 months after the date hereof the second fourth part, and so on, one fourth part every half year until the last payment inclusive.*

*For all which parties pledge their persons and properties, movable and immovable, present and future without any exception under bond as prescribed by law, without reservation or deceit. Hereof are two copies made of the same tenor and signed by parties.*

*Done on the day and date aforesaid.*

*This is the                      mark of ANTONY JANSEN abovenamed..*

*This is the mark of BARENT DIRCKSEN.*

*This is the mark of HENRYC HARMSSEN.*

*GILLIS DE VOOCHT, witness.*

*CORNELIS VAN TIENHOVEN, Secretary*

1,570 guilders was a staggering price, equivalent to \$4,082.00 in 2012. The plantings that ANTONY kept were twelve apple trees, forty peach and seventy-three cherry trees, twenty-six sage plants and fifteen (*grape?*) vines.<sup>16</sup> The sale was probably in response to a decision to banish ANTONY and GRIETJE from the province which the DIRECTOR-GENERAL and the Council reached on 7 April 1639 after a mountain of litigation, including an attempt by their neighbor DE TRUY to gain this property through a lawsuit. This tract is often referred to as being the same as one called *Wallenstein* that was owned by DIRCKSEN and later sold to SECRETARY VAN TIENHOVEN but, as *Wallenstein* is thought to be north of the town wall, not south of the Fort, this is a questionable assumption. DIRCKSEN bought another lot in the same area from HARCK SYBESON several years later.<sup>17</sup> There are descriptions of the neighboring lots in patents from 1646 and 1647 but none mention HENDRIC JANSEN or PHILIP DE TRUY, though the location of LAMERT VAN VALKENBERGH on the corner with JAN EVERTSEN BOUT followed by BARENT JANSEN to the west is confirmed.<sup>18</sup> The tract was on the G block on the map following. In the mid-1660s, THOMAS CONINCK was living in the 5<sup>th</sup> lot west of *Beurs-straet* which is thought to be where ANTONY lived. BOUT had established Communipaw in New Jersey which was devastated during the wars with the natives.<sup>19</sup>

### **Bouwery 22: on Broad between Stone and William – N block**

*Bouwery 22* is shown on both the Castello and Harrissee versions of the Manatus map and the accompanying list of owners both say this was the *boÿ* of ANTONIJ DU TURCK. This bouwery, as located on the maps, places it due east of the fort and closer to the East River than the fort which means it was east of the stream that became the *Gracht*. As already mentioned, a *bouwery* was a small farm with the farmer living on the property. This was not one of the bouwerijs the Company offered as an incentive to move to the colony but it was offered with certain stipulations that would improve the town overall and, when ANTONY did not make the improvements, the tract was confiscated.

The tract described next closely approximates the position marked on the maps, but the map is quite small and the detail required to make a definitive statement is lacking. STOKES, in his *Iconography of New York*, identifies this property as *Bouwery 22* and there is no reason to dispute that claim. What is known about the tract comes from the subsequent grant as the one for ANTONY is not found in known records.

The Company records state that a tract immediately east of the *Gracht*, or *the ditch*, was forfeited by ANTONY in 1646 for not making the promised improvements. This lot, located *on the canal opposite PIETER WOLPHERTSZ*, had been granted to ANTONY *for the purpose of having same built upon agreeable to order*. It ran between *Hoogh-straet* and *Slyke-sleegh* (now on the east side of Broad, between Stone and South William Street). ANTONY had been warned that he had to drain the swamp as it was *a stinking pool*. It seems he had nothing to do with the property – he built no house or barn, drained no swamp, and no crops were planted.<sup>20</sup> The lost record of the conveyance would have provided us with a date with which we would have a better idea of why these events transpired as they did. Speculating on this, as ANTONY had been living on Long

Island since being banished in 1639, it is hard to understand how he could have obtained this tract after his forced move out of town but it is equally hard to understand how he could have been in possession of the tract for over seven years without making any improvements.

ANTONY'S tract was forfeited sometime during 1646 as the lot, *heretofore granted to ANTONY JANSEN, but not improved*, was granted to GOVERT LOCKERMANS on 15 September 1646. LOCKERMANS was a successful Dutch trader whose business partner, ISAAC ALLERTON, was one of the original Plymouth settlers, having arrived in 1629 on the *Mayflower*. This tract was trapezoidal being described as: *along the ditch, on the west side, six rods (99')*; *on the south side, on the public road, four rods, three feet (69')*; *on the east side, next MICHAEL PAULUZEN, six rods, six feet (105')*; in rear, on the north end, two rods, five feet (38').<sup>21</sup> Coincidentally this lot, just like ANTONY'S earlier *Paerel-straet* home, was immediately adjacent to MICHAEL PAULUZEN'S lot. Unexplainable at this time is the patent to MICHAEL PAULUZEN, dated 21 January 1647, that includes a description of the lot being *on the west, next (to) ANTONY JANSEN'S lot* and *on the east, next (to) BARENT JANSEN*. JACOB WOLFERZEN VAN COUWENHOVEN received a patent for this same tract in 1655. N-block was slow to populate, in 1665 there were just seven residences.<sup>22</sup>

It must be mentioned that some writers and maps place *Bouwery 22* north of the palisade, outside the town proper. There is no record of such a transaction or mention of it in later deeds and what contemporary records do exist, place it within the confines of the town. Given that *Kieft's Wars* with the natives only ended in 1645, such a transaction seems unlikely. There was a tract, later called *Wallenstein*, that was both north of the wall and involved ANTONY in some way, but the particulars have yet to be found. It seems that *Bouwery 22* and *Wallenstein* have been conflated by some writers. BARENT DIRCKSEN who bought the *Paerel-straet* property from ANTONY in 1639 owned *Wallenstein*; he sold it to CORNELIUS VAN TIENHOVEN

### **Brugh-straet – E block**

One of the earliest, if not the earliest, original Manhattan property deed that still exists dates from 1643 when the DWIC issued a patent to ABRAHAM JACOBSEN VAN STEENWYCK on 17 November for a lot on *Brugh-straet*, adjacent, to the east, of the lot patented to the tailor HENDRICK HENDRICKSEN KIP seven months earlier. It was described as being: *in length, almost due north, eight rods one foot in breadth; about east five rods four feet and seven inches*. The adjacent lot of KIP was described as a *Lot east of the fort, in length seven rods one foot four inches, in breadth six rods, &c. An uneven square of about forty-for rods*.<sup>23</sup> The depth of both lots accounted for about three quarters of the distance between *Brugh-straet* and *Brouwer-straet* and measured 8 rods on some plot maps (94.5' for *Amsterdam roedes* or 98.5' for *Rijnland roedes*) in depth; it was wider on the street side by about 10 or 12 feet as KIP'S lot jutted into the side of STEENWYCK'S starting about 60' back from the street. STEENWYCK'S lot wasn't square; the east-west borders ran in a slightly northeast to southwest line while the north-south ones were pretty much perpendicular to the street. The lot was later squared with the street by cutting off a triangular strip in front; if and how the back borderline was handled isn't made clear in available records (the same thing was seen on KIP'S lot). STEENWYCK divided his lot into two sections and sold the western part, next to HENDRICK HENDRICKSEN KIP, to ANTONY JANSEN *VAN FEES* on 24 May 1644 for the equivalent of 24 Dutch guilders or *Carolusguldens*, payable in beaver pelts, foodstuffs and *sewant* or *wampum* (*less than \$10* at the time, or about \$234.00 in 2012). VALENTINE states this was *as valuable property as any in the town, ...*.<sup>24</sup> Measurements found in deeds are inexact, one translation says the lot *contained 17 rods, 6 feet, 2 inches*; this cannot

be the linear measurement because, with 17 rods being over 200' in length it is more than twice the actual length. It cannot be a measurement of area either as *17 rods*, meaning *square rods*, is far too small plus the *6 feet, 2 inches* would make no sense in such a measurement. Another translation says it measured *30' wide x 110' deep*, also too long to be correct and it is missing the cut off northwest corner that was part of KIP's lot to the west. Given the translation of KIP's lot above, it may be the correct translation is *in length 7 rods, 6 feet, 2 inches* (which is less than 5' longer than KIP's lot) with the breadth not included. The lot is shown on the 1660 map as number 22 *Brugh-straet* on Block E. STEENWYCK sold the eastern section of his lot in 1644 to HENDRICK JANSEN SMIT. There is a 1644 patent to HENDRICK JANSEN SMIT of a lot *on the common highway* which may have been the *Brugh-straet* lot. The *common highway* ran from the Fort to Peck Slip, north of the wall on the East River where one went to take the ferry to what is now the foot of Fulton Street in Brooklyn. Many state that it later became *Brouwer-straet*, as it ran to the brewery however the earliest maps show that *Brouwer-straet* ended a short distance from the Fort at the brewery, well before reaching the ditch. It was *Brugh-straet* that ran from the Fort to the bridge over the ditch, hence its name, before continuing on to Peck slip and, as there was no other possibility, this must be the road meant when the *common highway* is mentioned. Supportive of this statement is that the first and only bridge, at least until 1640 using dated engravings as a source, to cross the ditch was at *Brugh-straet*. *Brouwer-straet* was continued to the ditch sometime in the early to mid-1640s and later still, a bridge was built over the ditch at *Brouwer-straet*. Being a more direct route to the slip, this became the *common highway*, resulting in a misreading of records containing that phrase as referring to *Brouwer-straet* when *Brugh-straet* was meant. *Brouwer-straet* became Stone Street, or, more likely *Stenen-straet*, the Dutch equivalent, in 1658, after being the first road to be paved, which is the name it retained to this day.<sup>25</sup> HENDRICK HENDRICKSEN KIP, the neighbor to the west, was replaced as owner by his son JACOB KIP who was the first Clerk of the Court, 1653 – 1658.<sup>26</sup> A lot of land adjacent to the north of SMIT, JANSEN's and KIP's lots *along the road to the brew-house, Brouwer-straet*, was bought by PIETER CORNELISSEN, carpenter, in October 1646; the patent includes the clause that *in case it should be thought proper to widen the road, it may be done without claim of CORNELISSEN*.<sup>27</sup> This road was widened at CORNELISSEN's expense, before he sold it to ISAAC KIP, another son of HENDRICK HENDRICKSEN KIP and hence, brother of JACOB; some sources say in 1659 but records reflect KIP owned it at least three years earlier. ISAAC and JACOB had a third brother named HENDRICK, after their father.

What is most odd about the *Brugh-straet* property is the timing of its purchase. ANTONY and GRIETJE, as you will learn, had been living on Long Island since the latter part of 1639 and were not entertaining any thoughts of returning. This may reflect the troubled times during *Kieft's War* when no settler beyond New Amsterdam's protective palisade, or wall, was safe from attack. Early scenes of New Amsterdam show a long, two-story, Γ-shaped house placed about 20' back from the street. The "front" door was on the narrow, gabled end of the house, a style favored by the Dutch with a small orchard and vegetable garden in front and a larger one in the rear. No written description of this house is known to exist but drawings show it as also being clapboard. It was thought by this author that this was the house ANTONY owned for the rest of his life but recently uncovered deeds call this into question. That ANTONY continued to own property on *Brugh-straet* is certain; he leased his property there several times in the 1650s and 1660s. He ran an inn on *Bridge Street* in the 1670s. This lot can be seen to this day where it serves as a small parking lot on the north side of Bridge Street just west of Broad, next to the

White Horse Tavern. Many later buildings were made of local quarried stone or brick. The latter, in both yellow and red, were made locally or were salvaged ballast from ships.

On 21 November 1656 ANTONY sold the *Brugh-straet* property to ISAAC KIP, his neighbor to the north; 10 months later, on 4 September 1657, KIP bought the other half of the original STEENWYCK lot owned by HENDKE JANSE SMIT.<sup>28</sup> By some as-yet-undiscovered reason, ANTONY seems to have continued in possession of this property for the rest of his life. On a side note, ANTONY'S *Brugh-straet* neighbor, HENDRICK JANSEN SMIT, *an old burgher*, committed suicide by hanging himself from a tree *on the Kalckhoeck*, on the western side of the Collect Pond, the fresh water source for the town near Five Points. For this, the *Schout* presented the Burgomasters and Schepens with this demand: *that his goods shall be forfeit, the corpse drawn on a hurdle, as an example to others, and brought to the place where it was found hanging, and there shoved under the earth; further, that a stake-pole or post shall be set there, in token of an accursed deed.* Eight neighbors requested a decent burial and the Council ordered his *body to be interred in a corner of the churchyard, in the evening, after the ringing of the nine o'clock bell; further, the forfeiture of the goods left by him, to be applied as is proper.*<sup>29</sup>

Despite selling the property ANTONY and GRIETJE continued to live there the rest of their lives, they leased part of it out in 1663, ran an inn there in the 1670s and they also paid taxes on the property – all of these raise the possibility that the 1656 sale had been voided for some reason. It also appears in some records that ANTONY'S supposed brother, ABRAHAM JANSEN VAN SALÉ, lived there with TRYNTJE, his partner, plus their child. ABRAHAM died in the house. After GRIETJE died, ANTONY married a second time and his second wife continued to live in the house after ANTONY died. She was still there in 1674. Somewhat perplexing is VALENTINE'S *History of New York* which is usually quite detailed yet when discussing the owners of property on *Brugh-straet*, none of the above are mentioned. He names three people unknown as residents of the street in 1665 with the only known possible houses were ANTONY'S and that of his former next door neighbor HENDRICK JANSEN SMIT; the three are: PIETER JANSEN, a mason; PIETER NYS, wine merchant; and JAN ADRIANZEN.<sup>30</sup>

### **PLANTATION PROPERTY**

Plantations were tracts that were strictly agricultural; while they may have a barn, there was no residence. While no primary record of transfer has been found, reference to a patent issued to ANTONY by DIRECTOR-GENERAL WILLEM KIEFT is found in records of a later date.

#### **M Block – on Broad between William and Prince**

ANTONY took possession of a second tract east of the *Gracht*, this one in the next block inland along the ditch from the previously detailed *Bouwery 22*. The actual grant has yet to be found but a reference to it does exist which dates it to KIEFT'S tenure as DIRECTOR-GENERAL, that is, between 1638 and 1645. This trapezoidal tract measured *seven rods, two feet (115.5' –ck on conversion used as the lot measured 205' in later records or the orig deed should read should be about 12+ rods in length or maybe lot fdid not extend from Beaver to Willaims or maybe he only held what later became Rycken's lot)* along the *Gracht* and *seven rods, five feet (118.5')* at the opposite side; the north edge measured *two rods, six feet (39' note that this is close to the 40' later reported)* and on the south *towards the highway* it was *three rods, six feet (55.5' close to the later 56')*.<sup>31</sup> Roughly now, this tract was east of Broad Street (the *Gracht*) between South William Street (then *Slyke-sleegh*) and Beaver Street (then the road was *Prinsen-straet*). The phrase “towards the highway” probably refers to the *oost zyde*, the lane on the east side of the

canal. By the early 1640s this tract was being used for residential lots and is found with the designation *M Block*. The *Gracht* side was split into two lots, with the one south of Beaver bought by ABRAHAM RYCKEN around 1644, measuring 120' on Broad and 40' on Beaver, widening to 56' where it met the adjacent one north of South William that was bought by ADRIAN VINCENT in 1646; his measured about 85' on Broad and 56' on Williams. RYCKEN further subdivided his northern lot, splitting off parcels: one measuring 51' on Broad was sold to JACOBUS BACKER before 1665; a corner lot at Beaver and Broad, 40' x 36', was sold soon after sold to JOCHEM BEEKMAN. VINCENT also subdivided his southern lot, selling the parcel on the corner of Broad and South Williams to THOMAS DAVIDSON in 1661; another parcel was sold to his son-in-law SIMON FELL by 1665.<sup>32</sup>

In 1658 the Burgomasters authorized the building of the Great Dock. Made of two large, curved sections, the Great Dock created an artificial harbor that protected ships from ice in the winter and allowed for direct off-loading of goods instead of anchoring off-shore and shuttling them in on small boats. The western arm of the dock was an extension of the earlier public dock and was further enhanced by the building of Whitehall Slip on the outer side allowing for ships to dock on both sides of the wharf. The eastern arm was built in front of the *Stadt Huys*. The filling in of the Great Dock would start the outward growth of the island which ended up moving the shoreline three full blocks from where it was when our ancestors first landed there.

After living here for fifteen years and even at this early date, New Amsterdam, small as it was, was becoming truly cosmopolitan – it has been reported that eighteen different languages could be heard in any given month! French still competed with Dutch for being the most prevalent as many of the first inhabitants were French speaking Walloons, Protestants from today's Belgium fleeing the Spanish tyranny.

Many historians have characterized ANTONY and GRIETJE as being a disagreeable, litigious, argumentative and unpleasant couple. These charges appear to have their origins in the number of times they appear in the court records of New Netherlands. I have analyzed the Register of the Provincial Secretary covering 1638 – 1646, the New Netherlands Council Minutes, the Court of Burgomasters & Schepens from 1653 to 10 November 1674 and Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York Volume XIV in which is found information on boundary disputes between Turk's Plantation and the towns of Gravesend and New Utrecht.

ANTONY JANSEN makes it into one of the first entries in the earliest extant official records – the Register of the Provincial Secretary of New Netherlands beginning 19 April 1638 now in Albany. RYER STOFFELSEN and JAN GERRITSEN file declarations at the request of JOHN CORNELISON with the Secretary regarding the manner of death of ANTONY's dog stemming from the misconception that Muslims sacrificed dogs!<sup>33</sup> ANTONY appears no less than three more times in the Register for the year: HENDRICK JANSEN, probably the same who had called ANTONY "*a Turk, a rascal and a horned beast*" in April, sued him for slander on 3 June; the *Fiscal* sued on 28 October because he took timber from the woods without permission; and GERREKEN HESSELS's attempt to file an attachment for monies owed on 2 December was declared void as the *claim is not yet due*.<sup>34</sup> Also in the Court proceedings from 1638 appears the case of ANTONY JANSEN *from Salee* versus H. JANSEN in which the justices made the recommendation that they should strive *to live peaceably as neighbors, and which-ever does not, to pay 25 guilders and costs*.<sup>35</sup>

In the other records are found six instances, excluding court cases, involving slander. Of these ANTONY was the one slandered on two occasions while being the slanderer once. GRIETJE appears to be the mouthy one as she is charged with slander four times! Of course such charges must be taken with a grain of salt – ANNETJE JANS, the new wife of REVEREND EVEARDUS BOGARDUS, a coarse man with little ethics and less morals, refused to enter the home of a *MRS. VAN CORLEAR* when she found that GRIETJE was there. Not one to leave a snub unanswered, GRIETJE tailed *MEVROUW BOGARDUS* who, when stepping over the muddy road in front of the blacksmith's shop, hiked her petticoats. GRIETJE, of the dropped-petticoat instance, spread the allegation that the REVEREND'S wife was a brazen hussy as she had exposed her (gasp!) *shapely ankles* or so states a Court Declaration filed by the blacksmith JACOBUS VAN CORLEAR on 13 October 1638!! He stated that the *MEVROUW* had *placed her hand on her side and drawn up her petticoats a little, in order not to soil it, as the road was muddy*. Drawn to the conniving liar of a minister, it is not surprising that such a person would have similar traits and we find that ANNETJE claimed that she was wearing her new wedding outfit; a bit extravagant to stroll through muddy streets visiting random people wearing your wedding finery if you ask me, but, they were out to get ANTONY and GRIETJE by any means.<sup>36</sup>

Frivolous lawsuits, insofar as they had no place in court, could be, and were, very damaging. The proceedings were a conglomeration of hearsay, irrelevant statements, determining the guilt or innocence of a party based on the character of their relatives, paying people to commit perjury, and many other shameless courtroom antics. These were the norm not the exception for the Dutch; reviewing the court proceedings one is struck by the notable lack of evidence in most cases which is only surpassed by the quasi-judicial functioning of a court that renders a decision without evidence. The Director-General WOUTER VAN TWILLER, his uncle the patron KILIEN VON RENSSLAER, the schout-fiscal LUBERTUS VAN DINCKLAGEN and his wife, and the *Domine* EVERARDUS BOGARDUS and his *jufvrouw* ANNETJE JANS were involved in a series of similar suits in the mid-1630s.<sup>37</sup>

As for lawsuits, ANTONY is named in thirty-six: twenty-seven as the defendant and nine as the plaintiff. Now, in my view, this is not a litigious person – he filed nine lawsuits over a period of thirty-six years. Rather it seems that the plaintiffs were the litigious ones – especially during 1638 and 1639 when the *Schout*, or Sheriff, filed several lawsuits against ANTONY but was successful quite rarely. In the nine cases where ANTONY was the plaintiff, the Court supported his claim six times and the outcomes of the remaining three are unknown. This demonstrates that ANTONY had been wronged in one way or another, was able to document the wrong to the Court's satisfaction and another lawbreaker was brought to justice because of his lawsuits. Prone to litigation perhaps, ANTONY's success rate reflects poorly on his neighbors, not on him.

In the twenty-seven times he was a defendant seven times he either won the case or it was dismissed, the outcomes of four are unknown and the remaining sixteen had negative outcomes for him, including being banished from Manhattan. But even this is misleading – six of these cases involved a series of slander charges all brought on the same day and these were used by the *Fiscal* to initiate proceedings to banish ANTONY and GRIETJE. The cases of slander themselves were not ruled on. Being banished for slander seems a bit extreme when one considers that those convicted of theft and robbery, piracy, inflicting injury, being drunk and disorderly and a host of other more serious offences were not banished – they were fined, they may have served time in jail – but for the most part, these criminals were not banished, yet ANTONY and GRIETJE were banished for calling someone, as the Court record states, “a very bad



name.” More research is needed but it would seem there was probably an unspoken motive behind these proceedings – perhaps someone wanted to grab the property ANTONY owned and hoped to achieve this by having him banished (it didn’t work).

That there was animosity between ANTONY and GRIETJE and the towns second *domine* or minister, the REVEREND EVEARDUS BOGARDUS and his wife, ANNEKE JANS, is easily documented as early as June 1638. In that month BOGARDUS won a lawsuit on a debt and ANTONY counter-sued for 74 guilders (\$192.40 in 2012); the Court determined in ANTONY’s favor but for only 7 guilders (\$18.20) on 30 September 1638. In the first half of October there were several Declarations filed in the Court containing a lot of “*he said...*” and “*she said...*” accusations. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of October GRIETJE was sentenced in the case *Fiscal LUPOLD vs. ANTONY JANSEN from Salee, husband of GRIETJE REINERS* to stand in Fort Amsterdam and

*publicly declare at the ringing of the bell (9 pm?) that the minister is an honest man, to acknowledge that she lied falsely, and to pay costs, and three guilders to the poor; her husband ANTONY is bound to keep the peace towards MR. BOGARDUS and to pay a fine of twelve guilders.*

This they apparently did as, two days later, the Court records reflect that GRIETJE REYNIERS had appeared in court and declared,

*in the presence of the commander and council, and all the bystanders, that her assertion that the REVEREND MR. EVEARDUS BOGARDUS was a perjurer is a lie; begging pardon of God, the court and minister, and promising to comport herself in future so as to satisfy the authorities.*

Antony then appears in Court on the 21<sup>st</sup> where he

*declares he has nothing to say against MRS. BOGARDUS, acknowledging her to be an honest and virtuous woman, promising that he will never more say anything against her or her husband.*

The cause behind the animosity is less clear but religious differences do not seem to be the cause for there isn’t any hint of bad-blood between our couple and New Amsterdam’s first *domine*, JONAS MICHAËLIUS. Many writers mistakenly say that their animosity began when they sailed on the *Soutberg* in 1630 because the two women fought over the affections of the Domine. Hardly!! GRIETJE was not on the *Soutberg* and she would not tolerate a sniveling drunk like BOGARDUS. In a similar vein, many writers condemn our couple without thinking – yes, ANTONY often refused to pay for the *domine*’s salary, despite it being mandated by the DWIC. To pay would mean violating the tenet of Islam prohibiting adherents from providing support to other religions. It is interesting to note that to conform to Company policy, such payments could be made by GRIETJE and, perhaps tellingly, she is never mentioned in any of the disputes involving the *domine*’s salary. Payments made by her on ANTONY’S behalf couldn’t be proven as such unless noted and it would be hard to fight such charges. Also overlooked by biographers is the condemnation of the less-than-saintly REVEREND by the DIRECTOR-GENERAL and Council in 1646. They accused him of being a habitual drunk, often to the point of stumbling while in the pulpit; he called the former DIRECTOR VAN TWILLER *a child of the Devil* from the pulpit in 1634; he consorted with and defended criminals, notoriously MARYN ADRIAENSEN who attempted to murder DIRECTOR-GENERAL KIEFT in March 1643; he incited riots and was a known liar! KIEFT would haul any citizen before the court on the smallest of infractions if not false ones. The Court,



with two seated judges, would hear the case, promulgate the order and set the fine. KIEFT was one of the judges while the other was his lackey. Invariably the defendant would be found guilty and the fine would be exorbitant! It was actually the Board of Directors of the DWIC that recommended this approach to reversing the money pit as they always claimed a loss from this venture (though the profit-loss sheets indicate otherwise). KIEFT liked the idea but did the Company one better – instead of make the sums extorted from the residents into a profit for the Company he decided to line his pockets at the expense of the citizens and the Company. Appealing the case to the mother-country was allowed but KIEFT enacted a law that required all official documents such as deeds, bills of sale, and court appeals had to be written up by VAN TIENHOVEN, the company secretary. This way KIEFT knew what documents to forward on and which ones were destroyed.<sup>38</sup> The character of VAN TIENHOVEN is neatly summed up in one of his exploits. Having returned to Amsterdam to defend KIEFT against charges brought against him, the secretary had the time to court and seduce a basket-maker's daughter whom he promised to marry if she accompanied back to the colony. *MRS. VAN TIENHOVEN*, left behind in New Amsterdam, was probably not apprised of this souvenir from the mother-country her husband planned to bring with him. The facts of the lack of morals of Company officials when considered in conjunction with the absence of even-remotely-similar charges being leveled against ANTONY and GRIETJE by any Domine indicate that a large portion of the responsibility rests with the DOMINE BOGARDUS and his wife. Some responsibility needs to be apportioned to the escalation of a dispute over money by four strong-willed people into a name-calling spat. It turns out that the obnoxious, unpleasant, conniving and all-around-ugly couple was the DOMINE and MEVROUW BOGARDUS and not our ancestors!

While not being as unpleasant as the Reverend and his wife (if you overlook his crime against humanity – the massacre of over 120 Native Americans while they slept), DIRECTOR-GENERAL WILLEM KIEFT left much to be desired. When charged with ransoming Dutch captives in Constantinople, he allegedly pocketed a substantial sum and left several more Dutch in captivity for years more than had an honest man been sent to act on behalf of the States General.<sup>39</sup> KIEFT was famed for his ability to equivocate, ruminate and procrastinate. He was quick to call forth the Company trumpeter to sound the alarm from atop the walls of the Fort (which he did quite loudly and at all hours of the day or night), and when military action was required, he bravely sat in his office smoking his pipe. Yet, when negotiations were the solution, he often sent his small force of Dutch soldiers on a murderous and bloody rampage – no one was exempt from their slaughter.

As to ANTONY being referred to as *the mulatto* this author is not convinced that this appellation was used to identify our ANTONY JANSEN – rather it seems the appellation was used to identify someone other than ANTONY JANSEN *the Turk*. In June 1654 ANTONY JANSEN *the mulatto* sued WILLIAM STRENGWITS for payment of two months wages at 130 pounds of tobacco per month.<sup>40</sup> At this time ANTONY was living on his Long Island plantation and had several people in his employ; it seems unlikely that he would be working for tobacco when he could easily grow tobacco himself!

Just as historians have often misread ANTONY, they have also put words into GRIETJE's mouth. In volume 1 of the 1974 work *New York Dutch Manuscripts*, edited by KENNETH SCOTT and KENN STRYKER-RODDA, regarded by many to be *THE go-to source* for Dutch records, and read by thousands of others who have no reason to question its accuracy, are treated to the following exchange as allegedly testified to by the midwife on 6 October 1638. Upon the birth of a daughter, GRIETJE asked LYSBET DIRCKSEN, the attending midwife: "*Does my baby look like*

*my husband or ANDRIES HUDDE?*” LYSBET replied: “*If you do not know who the father is, how should I know? However the child is somewhat brown.*” That is *not* what GRIETJE asked or what LYSBET said in response; the original Dutch-to-English translation relates that LYSBET testified that GRIETJE asked “*Who does my baby look like?*” – HUDDE’S name is not mentioned at all! LYSBET continued with her testimony “*I told her the child was somewhat brown.*” What mother hasn’t asked that question? In GRIETJE’S case however, unscrupulous writers continue the lie and are guilty of misleading hundreds of readers by giving a false and derogatory meaning to this commonly-asked question. This is even more ridiculous when we recall that ANTONY had dark skin and, while not certain, it is a safe assumption that GRIETJE, of Dutch or German descent, was probably fair-skinned. What she was asking was “*Does my daughter look like me or my husband?*” – Nothing more, nothing less. This testimony was taken about the time CORNELIA was born, but, as LYSBET did not name the child or give any hint as to when this exchange took place, we are left with CORNELIA or her older sister SARAH as candidates for the daughter in question. So, who was this ANDRIES HUDDE that GRIETJE is falsely accused of thinking was the father of her daughter? He arrived in New Amsterdam just before or with ANTONY and GRIETJE, having sailed from Amsterdam in 1629 as they did. By the time of this event, 1638, he had been the first *Commissary* for the Company store and had twice, in 1633 and 1636, been appointed to the *Council of New Netherlands*. He lived in town on the *Breede-weg* (Broadway). He and a partner owned a large swath of land in Brooklyn, some 1,800 *morgens*, that the Company directors insinuated had been ill-gotten. He became the first *Surveyor-General* of the colony, 1642 – 1647, a post he would hold again in 1657. He died in Delaware in 1663 while on route to open a brewery in Maryland.

Another widely-reported, but undocumented, occurrence has GRIETJE marching into the Fort and shouting “*I have long enough been the whore of the nobility; from now on I shall be the whore of the rabble!*” Some writers add she had two of her daughters with her at the time, again these had to be SARAH and CORNELIA, and continue her quote with “*I shall take these bastards right away and dash their brains out against the wall.*” Historians have misread this but whether that was deliberate or because they were ignorant of the ways of life under the DWIC does not really matter. The result was shoddy work. The quote needs to be in its proper context:

- **First/When:** *if* she really did this, it had to be prior to August 1639 when they removed to Long Island which means it was done when charges of slander were being filed left-and-right, with testimony given that GRIETJE had been called a whore. Also in August 1639 only two of their daughters, had been born;
- **Second/Who:** who did GRIETJE mean by the “*nobility*” and the “*rabble*”? The *nobility* must mean the Company officials – DIRECTOR-GENERAL WILLEM KIEFT, SECRETARY CORNELIUS VAN TIENHOVEN and the *Fiscal* and possibly the Company-ordered DOMINE EVEARDUS BOGARDUS for it was they who constituted the *nobility* of the colony; and
- **Third/Why & What:** complaints against the Company were growing – they overcharged for everything in the store, the goods they sold were second-rate at best, they undervalued the furs they bought, the low-price livestock they offered for sale wasn’t even worth the discounted price and both GRIETJE and ANTONY were repeatedly named as defendants in spurious lawsuits.

In effect, they were being raped by the Company, hence her declaration: “*I have long enough been the whore of the nobility ....*” She was saying “*I have been ill-used by the Company*

*officials long enough....*” – it was a protest against bad government, not a self-proclaimed character assassination!

What actually happened will probably never be known but to make or repeat the numerous misinterpretations and errors while claiming they are based on Court records, when those records actually argue for the opposite determination is both unethical and amateurish.

Charges and counter-charges flew fast and furious beginning in autumn 1638 which culminated in ANTONY and GRIETJE being *permanently banished from New Netherland* on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April, 1639. However this banishment wasn't strictly enforced – it was not complete as ANTONY is found in town in later Court records; it wasn't permanent as they moved back into town in 1669; it only applied to New Amsterdam not the whole colony and, in fact, ANTONY received a large tract of land in the future Brooklyn as a result. PHILIP DE TRUY was just one neighbor that ANTONY and GRIETJE had troubles with. On 4 October 1638 DE TRUY submitted testimony to Court about the language used by ANTONY after the REVEREND EVEARDUS BOGARDUS tried to collect his salary. DE TRUY, a neighbor of ANTONY's when they lived on the *capsey*, was the Court's messenger or marshal. This was followed by JACOBUS VAN CORLEAR, of the exposed-ankle-scandal of the previous October, who declared on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March that WYBRAND PIETERSEN called GRIETJE a *whore* and ANTONY a *rascal*. Several Declarations were then filed with the Court a week later: in one JACOB STOFFELSEN *and others* charge GRIETJE with calling DE TRUY a *liar*, and that *they called each other several bad names*; another from the REVEREND stated that DE TRUY said to GRIETJE REYNIERS “*If you can prove me a liar, then I will prove you a whore*”; while a third also, made by STOFFELSEN, claimed that ANTONY called DE TRUY a *villain*. The dispute grew so acrimonious that a declaration was filed on 30 March by PHILIP GERRITSEN stating that GRIETJE was not drunk when he ran into her at the home of the miller ABRAHAM PIETERSEN!<sup>41</sup> DE TRUY was one of several people that sued ANTONY for slander in March 1639; the *Fiscal* (akin to a prosecuting attorney or district attorney; Attorney General at the State and Federal level) used these filings to initiate his own banishment proceedings. ANTONY testified that the *Fiscal* drew his sword and threatened him in his home but, in this case, the statement was challenged for not being provable – seems that standard only applied to ANTONY and GRIETJE as none of the other testimony, with statements with less ability to be substantiated, were challenged.<sup>42</sup> It is from these accusations that we hear of GRIETJE's past in Amsterdam: on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March CORNELIS LAMBERSE COOL says that GRIETJE was discharged for improper conduct when a waiting girl at PETER DE WINTER's tavern in Amsterdam:

*MR. COOL "...declared and testified that it is true and truthful that he, the deponent, being with CLAES CORNELISSEN SWITS lodged at Amsterdam, in the house of PIETER DE WINTER, tavern keeper there, at whose house GRIET REYNIERS was a servant, who served him, the deponent, and other guests with liquor, there were among others at the aforesaid house in another chamber some High Dutch soldiers, whom GRIET REYNIERS aforesaid also attended with drink, and as said GRIET REYNIERS did not come quickly enough from said room, her mistress went away and saw through a hole in the door that GRIETJE, above named, had her petticoat upon her knees. The mistress of the house not being well pleased at this, said to me, the deponent, and CLAES SWITS: "I thought I had an honest woman in the house, but she is a nasty whore and must quit here even tomorrow morning." All of which the deponent declares, in place of an oath, to have heard from the aforesaid landlady.*

*Thus done the 21st of March Ao. 1639 in Fort Amsterdam*

*This is the X mark of CORNELIS LAMBERSE COOL<sup>43</sup>*

While in today's courts such a statement is deemed to be hearsay and not admissible, in the Dutch courts of the day such testimony was used to establish, or assassinate, the character of a person. That these proceedings may have been a cover for an attempted land-grab is borne out by DE TRUY'S lawsuit against ANTONY for a piece of land, probably the bouwery he sold to BARENT DIRCKSEN on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May; the Court found for ANTONY on 28 April 1639. CLAES CORNELISSEN SWITS *was killed by a young Indian while working in his shop. His death was one of the incidents that triggered Kieft's War. To the Dutch it was murder. To the Indians it was justice fulfilled. Years earlier, shortly after PETER MINUET "bought" Manhattan, two of MINUET'S soldiers killed some Indians when a trade deal went sour. Our young killer Indian was a boy who witnessed this killing of his uncle. To the Indians, the killing of SWITS was justified, a taking of one of your group for the taking of one of ours.*<sup>44</sup>

An inventory of the disposition of Company-owned livestock was completed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 1639 (just in time for the start of the New Year) – one mare and one stallion were sold to ANTONY from bouwery number six. Another record has ANTONY *buying horses* from the DIRECTOR-GENERAL around the same time, either WOUTER VAN TWILLER until 1638 or KIEFT beginning that year, which may just a duplication of the first-mentioned record.<sup>45</sup> Apparently livestock got our ancestors into almost as much trouble as their mouths did. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of December, 1639 ANTONY was sued successfully by ANTONY PORTUGEES for loss of a hog; on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March, 1639 he was sued successfully by GERREKEN HESSELS for delivery of a young goat; and before August 1639 ANTONY was sued by the “who does my baby look like?” ANDRIES HUDDE for the return of three *milch* (milk) goats he had temporarily loaned or rented to ANTONY. A bond was put up as surety for their return by CLAES JANSEN RUYTER on 13 February 1640 and on 1 March 1640 the Court decided the case in favor of HUDDE.

Their banishment from the New Amsterdam in April 1639 was not immediate; they had until at least September to prepare. They needed land to live on across the East River which was forthcoming on 1 August 1639 when ANTONY, *thought to have been a semi-Dutchman from Morocco*<sup>46</sup>, received 199 Dutch *morgens* (418 acres) on the west end of Long Island from DIRECTOR-GENERAL KIEFT *over against Conyne Eylant* (Coney Island) extending along the shore 253 rods (probably Amsterdam *roedes*; 3,054 feet) at a perpetual yearly rent of one hundred Carolus guilders (about \$26.00). A patent dated 27 May 1643 reiterates the 1639 grant:

*We, WILLEM KIEFT, Director General and Council of New Netherland etc., herewith testify and declare, that on the first of August 1639 we have given and granted to ANTONY JANSEN VAN SALEE one hundred morgens of land lying on the bay of the North river upon Long Island opposite Coney Island, stretching along the shore two hundred and fifty-three rods, N.N.W., from the shore about N.E. by E. two hundred and thirty-six rods, again along a bluff one hundred and twenty-four rods about S.E., S.W. by W., twenty-four rods, S. fifty-four rods, further to the strand S.W. by W. one hundred and seventy-four rods, with some points of land lying on the south side, containing eighty-seven morgens, forty-nine and one-half rods, also a point of land stretching southward from the house, surrounded on three sides by meadows, reaching S.W. by W. seventy-two rods, S.E. by S. ninety rods being an oblong with some protruding points containing twelve morgens,*

*five hundred fifty and one-half rods, under the express condition and stipulations  
etc etc*

*Done at Fort Amsterdam in the N.N. this 27<sup>th</sup> of May 1643*

*WILLEM KIEFT*

*By order etc CORMELIS VAN TIENHOVEN,*

*Secretary*<sup>47</sup>

An original grantee's copy of this patent was sold at auction by Christie's in New York City on 25 October 2019. The winning bid was \$27,000.00.

The largest of the three tracts contained about 210 acres and fronted Gravesend Bay; the second tract extended inland and contained about 184 acres and the *point of land stretching southward from the house* surrounded by meadows contained 24 acres. Coming quickly on their heels was none-other-than CORNELIS LAMBERTSEN COOL, our source for the Amsterdam petticoat scandal; he received a warrant for two tracts of land totaling twenty-eight morgens (about fifty-six acres) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1642: one called *Gowanus* and the other *a part of the meadow, situate near the valley of ANTONY JANSEN VAN SALEE*. For reasons unknown, several writers give the total area of this grant as 10 acres rather than the 199 as stated.

On 13 October 1643 a robbery was reported by RICHARD AESTIN, AMBROSE LOVE and RICHARD STOUT. They declared that the "pirate" crews of the *Seven Stars* and that of *La Garce*, a Manhattan-based privateer, landed on the shore of the bay at the farm of ANTONY JANSEN VAN SALÉE and stole 200 pumpkins (possibly from Gravesend townlands); the haul would have been larger, including some hogs on Coney Island, but, learning they belonged to LADY DEBORAH MOODY, they decided to leave them behind.<sup>48</sup> That ANTONY was complicit in the crime has been interpolated by some researchers, however supportive evidence is lacking. Often overlooked is a declaration to the contrary regarding the stores found on the alleged "pirate" vessels recorded on the same page of the provincial records which details only the presence of some cabbage on board. Since ANTONY'S farmland encompassed the entire coastline, the crew, if they actually existed, had no option but to put ashore on ANTONY'S farm. *La Garce* had greater success when it captured two Spanish vessels in the West Indies and relieved them of their cargo of sugar, wine, tobacco, and ebony, returning to New Amsterdam in May 1644.<sup>49</sup>

ANTONY'S plantation, containing the three tracts described, fronted what is now Gravesend Bay from Coney Island in the south to Owl's Head Park (which marks the southern extent of Upper New York Bay) in the north and includes the Bay Ridge neighborhood; Turk's Plantation ran 0.8 miles along the coast, extending inland about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile, wrapping around the Canarsie village of *Massabracem*. Notice should be given to a 1636 Dutch purchase of land on Gravesend Bay from the Canarsie tribe wherein a native settlement named *Quawancka* with a longhouse is found on a 1639 Dutch map; the specifics of this purchase have yet to be located. This land may be of more significance from an historical perspective than previously believed; some historians now maintain that HENRY HUDSON'S landing of the *Halve Moon* in September 1609 did not take place at Sandy Hook, New Jersey but rather on this tract of land now in Brooklyn, citing HUDSON'S own journals as evidence. It took several years of negotiations with the Canarsie tribe for this land before ANTONY'S purchase was confirmed by the Canarsie on 26 September 1651; it is not known if their leader was still CHIEF PENNOWITS at this late date. Securing this deed may have been prompted by similar actions taken by the patentees of Gravesend which culminated with the deed to their tract dated 1 November 1650. The plantation was bordered by COOL'S property and the fledgling English village of Gravesend that was sited at *Massabracem* to the east by 1643. Banished to Long Island, still within the confines of the

colony, removed them from the flash points of *Kieft's War* of the early 1640s. This may have protected the JANSEN family from the retribution of Algonquin warriors for the unprovoked slaughter of their tribesmen by Dutch soldiers on the night of 25 February 1643. As related by CAPTAIN DAVID PIETERSEN DE VRIES:<sup>50</sup>

*So was this business begun between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of February in the year 1643. I remained that night at the governor's sitting up. I went and sat in the kitchen when, about midnight, I heard a great shrieking and I ran to the ramparts of the fort and looked over to Pavonia. Saw nothing but firing and heard the shrieks of the Indians murdered in their sleep I returned again to the house by the fire.... When it was day the soldiers returned to the fort having massacred or murdered eighty Indians and considering they had done a deed of Roman valor in murdering so many in their sleep; where infants were torn from their mothers' breast and hacked to pieces in the presence of the parents, and the pieces thrown into the fire and in the water, and other sucklings were bound to small boards and then cut, stuck, and pierced, and miserably massacred in a manner to move a heart of stone.... Many fled from the scene and concealed themselves in the neighboring sedge, an when it was morning came out to beg a piece of bread and to be permitted to warm themselves, but they were murdered in cold blood and tossed into the water....*

Another 40 Native Americans were similarly butchered at Corlear's Hook the same night. KIEFT thanked each returning soldier with congratulations and lots of hand-shaking. When this crime-against-humanity was answered, the citizens were ready to overthrow the mass murderer; one member of the council threatened his life with a pistol but was disarmed and imprisoned; another actually did take a shot at him but missed – he was killed and his head was hung from the gallows.

Gravesend and Mespath were destroyed but *Turk's Plantation* was left unmolested which some have attributed, perhaps correctly, to ANTONY's good relationship with his Canarsie neighbors. Descriptions about this period uniformly state that the whole of the population were forced to move into the confines of New Amsterdam, or to the Dutch fort at Nieuw Amersfoort (Flatbush) for safety. Yet, they also mention the heroic defense of Gravesend by the inhabitants, who must not have fled; the sparing of *Rensselaerwyck* of any deprivations and other contradictory statements with one stating that ANTONY and GRIETJE did not leave their somewhat isolated home, with their 4 girls between 2 and 11 years old. As is often the case, the writer did not supply any reference for that statement but it may have been an extrapolation of the *unmolested* nature of *Turk's Plantation*. As these accounts were not first-hand, most being written in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the statements are unreliable at face value but do provide us with a sense of the instability at the time. *Turk's Plantation* was further enclosed on 29 November 1645 by a grant of eighty-nine morgens, four hundred forty-two rods to ROBERT PINOYER which extended:

*along the strand of ANTONY JANSEN from the meadow, N.N.W. 45 rods, N. by W. 30 rods, N.N.E. and N. by E. 45 rods, then through the woods to MYLADY MOODY'S E.S.E. and S.E. by E. between both 275 rods along the land of MYLADY S.S.W. 225 rods to the meadow, thence along the meadow with some curves to ANTONY JANSEN'S land.*

The Dutch population, decimated during *Kieft's War*, the remnant huddling in the squalid Fort, and the smoking ruins of the rest of the colony is what greeted PETRUS STUYVESANT when he arrived in May in 1647. Some writers say that ANTONY, GRIETJE and their four daughters,

CORNELIA, SARAH, ANNICA and EVA, were all on hand to give a sound farewell to the despised KIEFT as well as size-up his replacement which seems likely as it was reported that the “whole town” turned out for the changing-of-the-guard. WASHINGTON IRVING, writing as DIEDRICH KNICKERBOCKER, paints for us the scene of the bustling town upon his arrival aptly:

*New Amsterdam, though fortified by flagstaffs, trumpeters and windmills, seemed, like some fair lady of easy virtue, to lay open to attack and ready to yield to the first invader.*

That individual personalities played a huge role in the various disputes involving our ancestors is shown by the return of ANTONY and GRIETJE to the good graces of the Company officers shortly after STUYVESANT’S 1647 arrival; their business dealings in the town increased and by the end of the 1660s ANTONY moved into a house on *Brugh-straet*, probably the one he bought in 1644 and sold to ISAAC KIP in 1656. The majority of wooden structures had been or were about to be replaced with sturdier structures of brick, a reconstruction process that was nearing completion by 1664. Well before this ANTONY is known to have been in town as a court judgment entered on 12 September 1641 ordered him to pay for goods sold and delivered by ISAAC ALLERTON *before leaving Manhattan Island*. Another instance is when ANTONY is ordered to *not leave Manhattan* on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October, 1656 in connection with ongoing lawsuits with the town of Gravesend over ownership of hay grown on disputed meadowland.

ANTONY and GRIETJE lived on *Turk’s Plantation* for over twenty years where they raised their four daughters before moving into Gravesend in 1660. In 1879, while leveling sand dunes that had blown up on the bay southeast of Locust Grove, two sections of walls were uncovered under several feet of sand. The one foot thick walls were made from unbroken field-stones held together by clay mortar, the ruins rising to a height of two feet. The room had a clay floor and was probably one of the farm’s many outbuildings, quite possibly a threshing room. Threshing is the tossing of grain into the air to help separate the wheat from the chaff. [What happened to these ruins is not stated] They leased all or part of their plantation for four years to EDMUND ADLEY on 2 September 1646. The English translation of this lease is:

*Before me, CORMELIS VAN TIENHOVEN, Secretary of New Netherland, appeared ANTONY JANSEN VAN SALEE, who in the presence of the witnesses here underwritten declared and acknowledged that he leased his bouwery situate below the narrows (door de hooften) on Long Island to EDMUND ADLEY, who also acknowledged to have hired it for the term of four consecutive years, commencing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of last September and ending on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 1650. ANTONY JANSEN shall also be bound to have built a house fit to live in, and the Lessee (appended note says should read Lessor) shall cause the arable land to be enclosed once for all with posts and rails, which fence EDMUND remains bound to deliver back, on the expiration of the four years as good (at least tight) as it now be delivered, and the Lessee promises to keep the house and fence in repair at his own expense during the lease. The Lessee shall annually pay as rent of the aforesaid Bowery, cattle and implements which ANTONY now delivers, the sum of two hundred guilders the first year, and two hundred and fifty guilders every year the three succeeding years, with five pounds of butter annually. The other property ANTONY JANSEN now delivers, as per the subjoined inventory ADLEY is bound to restore at the end of the lease, when the number of the cattle that the Lessee (Lessor?) now delivers shall first of all be deducted, and then the increase shall be divided half and half between the Lessor and*

*the Lessee. It is also expressly stipulated that the risk of the cattle shared be shared in common both by the Lessor and Lessee during the lease, and if any of the cattle happen to die, the loss must first of all be made good from the increase. ANTONY promises to furnish as much seed corn as he can. [part of manuscript destroyed]*

*Property, implements and cattle inventory acknowledged as received by ADLEY:*

- *1 stallion, 12 years old; 1 stallion of 3 years.*
- *1 mare of 4 years. EDMUND shall allow one stallion colt and two bull calves, at the end of the four years, though the colt may be grown, and the bull calves, oxen; because ANTONY receives so little butter; of which colt and calves the Lessee runs no risk, unless the animals be lost through the Lessee's negligence.*
- *Two cows in good condition.*
- *Two new plows and appurtenances.*
- *1 wagon and appurtenances.*
- *One harrow with iron teeth; 2 spades; 2 scythes; 2 siths and hasps.*
- *1 handsaw; one iron sledge; 1 iron maul; 1 churn and fixtures.*
- *One axe; one cream pot; two pails; one handmill; one fan; one pitchfork; three forks; one three-pronged fork; three horse collars with one long rope, being a fore and aft trace.*
- *One carpenter's adze; one ditto axe; 1 sickle, 1 hook; one auger; one long gun.*

The lease, recorded 6 September 1646, unfortunately, does not specify the size of the “*bouwery situate below the narrows*”; nor does it indicate if the leased land contained all three tracts of land found in the 1643 conveyance. ANTONY and GRIETJE had lived on the plantation for several years by 1646 so it is a safe assumption they already had a home and several farm buildings. The stipulation in the lease requiring ANTONY to build a house for his tenant seems to indicate that the leased area was only a portion of the larger property, otherwise the buildings already standing would be included in the lease and there would be little need for such a stipulation. Other records yet-to-be-discussed establish without a doubt that ANTONY often leased out portions of his plantation; the ADLEY lease remains unclear in acreage. This was not to be a rewarding landlord-tenant relationship; just six weeks later, on 18 October 1646, ANTONY sued ADLEY for damages to his cattle and bouwery. The case was referred to two Magistrates of Breukelen, JAN EVERTSEN BOUT (one of ANTONY'S former neighbors on *Paerel-straet*) and HUYCK AERTSEN, who were commissioned “*to examine JANSEN'S stock and bouwery and determine whether ADLEY acts as an honest tenant; if he do not, he shall quit premises or give security.*” Unfortunately the disposition of the case has not yet been found so it cannot be said with certainty that ADLEY remained a tenant. The clause regarding the fence is interesting in that ANTONY was cited by the Court of Burgomasters and Schepens on 20 April 1648 for not erecting such a fence. There exists a level of ambiguity in the English translation of the lease regarding who was responsible for the fence but beyond that, we do not know if ADLEY was a tenant, if the land to be fenced was the same as that found in the lease or the outcome of either Court proceeding as the records are silent.

Trouble with tenants was but one of ANTONY'S headaches. Another was laborers - JURIAEN HENDRICKSEN sued ANTONY in 1643 for payment for work done which ANTONY disputed.<sup>51</sup> ANTONY hired JACOB TEUNISSEN in 1655. JACOB worked for ten weeks at the rate of 4 florins per week and requested the 40 florins owed. ANTONY refused to pay because JACOB had not fulfilled the terms of the contract: one year with compensation being 150 florins, two pairs of



shoes and free washing. Upon expiration of the year ANTONY would fulfill his terms of the contract. TEUNISSEN sued and the case plodded through Court until at least August 1656 when the record goes silent.<sup>52</sup>

### A DAUGHTER'S DOWRY

ANTONY and GRIETJE'S daughter ANNICA married THOMAS SOUTHARD on 29 December 1650. THOMAS was born in Leyden, Holland in 1615 and lived there for twenty-five years before immigrating to the New World and taking up farming near *Turk's Plantation*. Despite his Dutch birth, he was English through-and-through, his parents possibly having fled the religious turmoil in England of the STUART monarchy. Whether this exacerbated his in-law troubles or not isn't certain. A dispute arose between the two when THOMAS claimed that his father-in-law refused to honor an agreement they had made regarding either land or livestock before the marriage. The suit was first placed by THOMAS SCHONDTWART before the Magistrates of Gravesend on 22 December 1653, who ordered ANTONY'S arrest about six weeks later – whether this was done at THOMAS' request or not, the records do not say. The DIRECTOR-GENERAL intervened and ordered the Magistrates of the town to release him and called them to account as they had no authority to take such an action. He then ordered the dispute moved to the Court of Burgomasters and Schepens as the Magistrates had exceeded their authority in their attempt to decide matters such as this dispute. The Court heard the complaint at City Hall and referred the matter to two examiners, DAVID PROVOOST and HENDRICK KIP, to determine the facts and reach a settlement. Two councilors, SILLE and LAMONTAGNE, were appointed to effect settlement after the examiners failed to reach a settlement. The councilors were, likewise, unsuccessful. The case dragged on for several months; in no small part due to ANTONY'S attorney DIRCK VAN SCHELLUYNE, a notary public of New Amsterdam, failing to respond to the complaint. It is known that ANTONY JANSZ VAN VAES, living on Long Island engaged the services of DIRCK VAN SCHELLUYNE, notary public to represent him on 2 April 1654. It seems that SCHELLUYNE may have been brought on at this point in time since the case had been filed just three months earlier and the reported delays of *several months* caused by him would place it well past the last known Court record in March. ANTONY did have another lawsuit pending at this time, which is discussed later, which could have been the reason for the April 1654 hiring of an attorney.<sup>53</sup> Perhaps THOMAS dropped the matter after it became clear that ANTONY'S arrest had been illegal and the party responsible for the arrest could be held liable. The case was ultimately appealed to the DIRECTOR-GENERAL and the Council but the outcome remains hidden. The last Court record is dated 7 March 1654 after which the records grow silent. It is reported by some the case was resolved in ANTONY'S favor.<sup>54</sup> Despite the lack of a verdict, the results are clear and they apparently did not satisfy THOMAS; he soon thereafter removed himself, and his wife, to the town of Heemstede. There he built a new life and a new home, one which would remain in the SOUTHARD family until the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century!

### A TALE OF TWO CITIES

- GRAVESEND

Gravesend was one of several towns founded by English fleeing the tyranny of the New England colonial governments; it was the only one to end up in King's County. It was located at *Massabracem*, a Canarsie village and lay to the east of *Turk's Plantation*. The 1643 patent covered some 7,000 acres but could not encroach on any previously patented land, a vague

proscription that would lead to much litigation. Some say KIEFT named the settlement in honor of the town of '*s-Gravenzande*, the Count's *beach*, now in South Holland, that served as the seat of government for the Counts of Holland before they moved to *Gravenhage*, the Count's *wood*, now known as *Den Haag* or The Hague, in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, which would give KIEFT a much greater base of knowledge that those same writers usually grant him. While this would be consistent with the portrayal of the DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S policy to give a place name to an area in a patent, whether or not this was ever truly a policy, or the mere formality of including the name the patentees wanted on the patent, is not certain. An alternative is that it was named after the port of *Gravesend* on the south bank of the Thames estuary in Kent, England which is supposedly where LADY MOODY set sail for New England in 1639; it had been given the more romantic connection of being her birthplace but that was dropped as it became more widely known that she was born in London. Not surprisingly, neither explanation has any supporting documentation; both seem to be grasping at straws in their attempts to find the reason for this name being selected. The grateful English could be counted on to defend DIRECTOR-GENERAL KIEFT against the growing anger of the Dutch citizens who had filed formal complaints at The Hague. In August 1643, the newborn village was destroyed by native warriors who apparently left GRIETJE and ANTONY and their four daughters in peace. This was during *Kieft's War* which lasted from 1642 to 1645, and the few townspeople fled to the safety of the Dutch fort to the east at Nieuw Amersfoort (Flatbush). Almost immediately upon the War's ending, KIEFT reconfirmed a previous warrant by granting a town charter for Gravesend on 19 December 1645 to LADY DEBORAH MOODY (1586 – 1659), her son SIR HENRY MOODY (1607 - 1662), ENSIGN GEORGE BAXTER and SERGEANT JAMES HUBBARD (1630 – 1702); in it the original twenty-eight land holders are named. The town proper that was laid out in 1645 contained sixteen acres. Originally divided into twenty-eight lots, a reconfiguration made the following year allowed for forty lots divided into four quadrants of ten lots each with a common space in the middle; the lots were awarded by a lottery. Each quadrant had land set aside for common-use: the southwest quadrant had a public cemetery while the town hall, the public school and the village church accounted for the public land use in the other quadrants. Twenty-eight lots were on the perimeter lying next to the seven-foot high palisade that enclosed the town. The remaining twelve lots were inside on one of the two roads that bisected the town: the north-south Gravesend Road (now McDonald Avenue) and the east-west Gravesend Neck Road; the town hall was erected at their intersection. Each of the twenty-eight peripheral lots included twenty-five morgens of land immediately adjacent to their town-lot but outside the palisade with *sufficient upland for 6 head of cattle and meadows proportionate*; the owner was required to erect a fence at the outside perimeter of their outer lots. Sand dunes and salt marsh made up a significant part of the out lots, especially those closest to Sheepshead Bay. An ancestor in a different line, JAMES GROVER, is found as one of the original inhabitants, owning lot number 18 in the 1645 division and lot 20 in the 1646 division. Lot number 29 of the 1646 division came into the possession of NICHOLAS STILLWELL and was later bought by ANTONY. STILLWELL owned more than one lot and identifying which one was number 29 is difficult. STILLWELL'S lots were on the south side of town and thus bordering Coney Island; an option to buy a lot was sold to RICHARD DUNN for three hundred guilders and STILLWELL purchased DUNN'S option; that lot was deeded to STILLWELL in 1648. A second lot was originally owned by JOHN THOMAS who soon sold out to STILLWELL. STILLWELL held lot 7 in the 1645 division but is not found as an original holder in the 1646 one. The 1646 layout can still be seen lying west of Sheepshead Bay between Bensonhurst and Coney Island with the town walls now found as Village Road South, Village Road East, Village Road North and Van Sicklen

Street. On 1 November 1650 the sale of Gravesend to the Dutch by the Canarsie tribe was confirmed. JAMES HUBBARD was the *Schout* of Gravesend and GEORGE BAXTER was one of STUYVESANT'S English negotiators in the settlement and a Gravesend Magistrate; BAXTER was also an associate of CORNELIUS VAN TIENHOVEN who favored extermination to end trouble with the Native American tribes in contrast to the peace policy pursued by STUYVESANT and desired at The Hague. In 1654 Coney Island was bought from the Natives for about the equivalent of \$15.00 in *sewant*, guns and gunpowder, Some historians believe this was used as the common ground for the town while others maintain that it was parceled out to the town's inhabitants. Both positions ignore or overlook the fact that most of Coney Island had already been granted to ANTONY JANSEN with the exception of the westernmost island which was held by GYSBERT OP DYCK. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of September in 1655 the Magistrates of Gravesend notified the outlying Dutch of an impending attack; five Dutchmen, including ANTONY, requested a rescue expedition be sent to his farm:

*Honored General*

*We are at present surrounded by savages. Those who only are permitted to approach, viz., Englishmen, say that the savages do not confide in them (the English). That the Indians do not intend to delay long, but perhaps may execute their plan to-night, and that we ought to solicit reinforcement as soon as possible. As to the English, whatever they pretend to the contrary, they permit the savages to go and return, and there is no doubt that the blow is intended to strike our heads. We do not, at any rate, expect any assistance from the English, so that we all remain without wives and children in a dreadful anxiety. Wherefore we solicit your honor, with all earnestness and humility, to assist us as speedily as possible.*

In lieu of a rescue expedition, orders were sent for the outlying farmers to take refuge in Gravesend and twenty soldiers were sent to bolster the defense of the protected town, a move that proved unnecessary as the anticipated attack never materialized. The inhabitants of the small community soon split into a Dutch party and an English party. LIEUTENANT NICOLAS STILLWELL led the Dutch faction while ENSIGN BAXTER, SERGEANT HUBBARD and our ancestor JAMES GROVER rallied the citizens to the English flag; the latter hoped to achieve a quasi-independent status under the protection of the colony at Connecticut or Rhode Island.

Trouble over the town limits took several years to resolve and arose, in part, from the unclear descriptions found in the patents – just *which* creek was meant when it said “*beginning at the mouth of a creek adjacent to Coneyne Island ...*”? Plus a lot of the land was marshy and therefore difficult to survey properly. In the event, it turns out the ANTONY was in the right and the townspeople of Gravesend were claiming more than their patent allowed. Somewhat disingenuously the town sited “*the creek adjacent to Coneyne Island*” towards the center of Gravesend Bay where a small brook drained into that body which was no-small-distance from Coney Island. The first hint of trouble appears in February 1654 when the Gravesend Magistrates arrested ANTONY for trespassing on town lands, a violation the town's charter limiting such actions to only those involving less than fifty Dutch guilders. Whether or not they acted out of vengeance for the earlier chastising they received from the DIRECTOR-GENERAL and Council for arresting ANTONY is not known. The Provincial Council issued an order on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February commanding the Magistrates to immediately release ANTONY from confinement yet again and to answer for their actions before the DIRECTOR-GENERAL and Council on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. ANTONY responded in kind: on 3 March 1654 he sued Gravesend for trespass and the matter was set to be heard on 3 September. As previously mentioned in the discussion about ANTONY'S his

dispute with his son-in-law THOMAS SOUTHARD, ANTONY hired the attorney DIRCK VAN SCHELLUYNE in April 1654, most likely for that matter for which it is known that SCHELLUYNE was involved, but it could have been to represent him before the Council of New Netherlands against the Magistrates of Gravesend. The case dragged on for two more years when the Council sided with ANTONY and ordered the town to restore all property. Instead, the town continued to lay claim to ANTONY'S land and grazed their cattle in his meadows. ANTONY did likewise with his cattle but the town, defying the Council's orders, confiscated twenty-four of his cattle. On 12 April 1656 the Council issued an order enjoining the Gravesend *magistrates from proceeding any further with the fencing and inclosing of petitioner's land* and ordering ANTONY to serve the magistrates a copy of his complaint against them. The DIRECTOR-GENERAL had enough – he ordered the Magistrates to be detained in New Amsterdam on charges of contempt for a trial in an Extraordinary Session at Fort Amsterdam on 21 August 1656. The town's complaints were determined to be unfounded and STUYVESANT ordered the Magistrates held until such time they complied with the Council's orders, paid all court fees and paid damages to ANTONY. In addition the Magistrates and interested parties were ordered to appear at Fort Amsterdam on 26 August where the Council stated, again, what the town limits were, according to their own charter as well as ANTONY'S deeds. This effectively ended the dispute, not because the town complied with the orders, but because ANTONY sold the plantation! Thirteen years and two owners later, proceedings are found in the official records regarding the disputed meadowland!

The Gravesend deed was signed on 1 April 1660 but not recorded until 9 February 1661 (most writers have thus far failed to convert *o.s.* 1660 to 1661). ANTONY sold his plantation to NICHOLAS for sixteen hundred guilders (roughly \$920.00 in 2012) plus NICHOLAS' Gravesend property, lot 29. On that date both appeared before JOHN TILTON, Secretary of the Council of Gravesend, where ANTONY declared that the sale included the land, house, barn, garden and orchard in Gravesend.<sup>55</sup> JACOB CURLAR and JAN JANSEN signed as witnesses. NICOLAS STILLWELL received his commission as LIEUTENANT and was appointed *schout* of the Dutch possessions on Long Island on 12 April 1660. STILLWELL paid half of the amount owed on 28 December 1660.

ANTONY, prior to the second payment due date of 28 December 1661, came to believe that he had been conned by STILLWELL who placed a much higher value on lot 29 in Gravesend than its actual worth and significantly undervalued the plantation. ANTONY believed the true value of *Turk's Plantation* to be at least 3,200 guilders. No doubt acting on the advice of his attorney SOLOMON LACHAIRE, STILLWELL went to ANTONY'S on 27 December with the *schout* and the *Secretary* of the Council of Gravesend and, after actually showing ANTONY the money, demanded that ANTONY settle a discrepancy that had arisen over the exact boundaries of the plantation. ANTONY refused to cooperate and STILLWELL, true to his word, refused to turn over the final 800 guilders the following day. ANTONY had previously claimed to own *a certain hook of land* but, at a later date, appears to have changed his story, possibly hoping to regain some of the losses he felt were STILLWELL'S doing. ANTONY petitioned the Council of New Netherlands on 9 February 1662 to release him from the 1660 real estate transaction with STILLWELL, based on the perceived financial losses according to some writers while others maintain it was because of the withheld second payment. STILLWELL mounted a defense (found in the Register of SOLOMON LACHAIRE, City Clerk's Office of New York, pages 228-231) which included a declaration made by THOMAS MORRELL on 23 January 1622 that ANTONY showed him and his party the tract of land and told them that it included all the hook of land from the *usual landing place* to the seashore to *Konynen* (Coney) Island. LACHAIRE was a prominent wine merchant

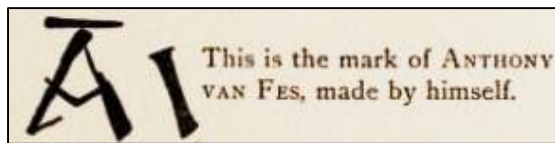
who left that business in his wife's care when the law distracted him. For his efforts to establish the right of the Gravesend inhabitants to Coney Island he was paid *twenty-four guilders* worth of *grey peas* for which he had to pay the freight.<sup>56</sup> Further in LACHAIRE'S record we find the declaration of GERRIT SEGGER who states he had previously leased land from ANTONY that he sold to STILLWELL and his lease included the disputed hook. On 10 February 1662 STILLWELL submitted the following to Stuyvesant and the Council:

*HONORABLE:*

*The above named Declarant says that said ANTONY JANSEN came to his house about one month before the last payment, being Eight hundred guilders, fell due and asked what the Declarant will give for pay; if corn he would go to the Manathans and agree with the Brewers:*

*Whereupon Declarant answered, You can well save the trouble of agreeing with any of the brewers, for, I said, your money is ready--and thereupon showed him about six hundred guilders in Wampum, saying, the balance being two hundred guilders, I shall immediately point out to you where to receive it, on condition that you give and deliver to me what you have sold to me according to the bill of sale thereof signed by you.*

STUYVESANT refused to render an opinion and their differences must have been settled amicably, possibly spurred on by a Mohawk attack on Kennebec which demonstrated the security offered by living in a town enclosed by a palisade. No further action is found regarding this dispute and STILLWELL signed a warranty deed to lot 29 in Gravesend on 28 April 1662 which was witnessed by ANTONY'S son-in-law WILLEM JANSEN VAN BORCULO. On 24 May 1663 ANTONY obtained confirmation from the Council that this land was clear of any indebtedness to the DWIC. ANTONY sold his Gravesend plantation to his son-in-law FERNANDUS VAN SICKELLEN on 6 September 1669; this was recorded in December 1669. ANTONY moved back onto *Brugh-straet*, probably into the house he sold in 1656 to Isaac Kip. The *Brugh-straet* house was occupied by different tenants over the years: In 1654 ANTONY sued PIETRE CASPERSEN VAN NAERDEN for back rent, probably for the *Brugh-straet* property. CLAES TYSEN,



a cooper, signed a lease on 26 May 1655 for one year, or so much longer as lessor and lessee shall agree upon, for part of a house and lot in New Amsterdam, on the East River, between HENDRICK

KIP'S and HENDRICK JANSZ'S, namely the front part of the house and half of the loft with the place and lot belonging to the house at an annual rent of 140 Carolus guilders<sup>57</sup>; EGBERT MYNDERSON leased the house in the new Bridge Street, between the houses of HENDRICK KIP and HENDRICK JANSEN SMIT, from the worthy ANTONY JANSEN VAN FES, called VAN SALEE on 30 March 1663 for two years beginning on 1 May 1663; this agreement calls into question whether or not the 1656 sale of this property to ISAAC KIP was reversed at some point. MYNDERSON was required to roof the house with good tiles at his own expense with the stipulation that, by January 1664, ANTONY provides 15 planks and 162 florins, 10 stuivers, payable in wampum or grain and further the woodwork and what belongs to it with the carpenter's wages. ANTONY is also required to provide a convenient sleeping place, where he may store one or two chests. Both parties signed the agreement before the notary public WALEWYN VAN DER VEEN which was witnessed by RESOLVERT WALDREN and JACOBUS VAN DE WATER.<sup>58</sup> Another renter was

THOMAS COCX who ANTONY also had to sue in April 1666 for rent owed, likewise, the location of the rental property isn't specified, but it was probably the same house.

Besides trouble with renters, he also had trouble with neighbors. HENDRICK JANSEN SMIT or *HENDRICK JANSEN, a smith* (not to be confused with HENDRIC JANSEN, the tailor, who was a neighbor on *Lang Strant* and who called ANTONY *a rascal*) a neighbor since 1644, encroached on ANTONY's property and initiated a lawsuit in October 1660 to obtain title to the stolen property. Unsuccessful, SMIT had to release the property, pay court costs and pay damages to ANTONY.<sup>59</sup>

On 9 April 1659, a woman named CATALYNTJE, the wife of JORESY, went to city hall and presented herself to ALLARD ANTONY of the Orphanmasters Court and declared that a man called ABRAHAM JANSEN VAN SALEE, alias *the Turk*, who had lived at her house was dead. He had made a testament naming JORESY as executor, whereby he left his property *to the negro-woman and child he has had by her*. She states that *the Deacons of the City have attached and seized the property* and that she has been to the Director-General, who sent her to see ALLARD. His position was that, since the domicile was not within the jurisdiction, the Orphanmasters Court could do nothing; he recommended returning to the Director-General and bringing the matter before the Council (of New Netherlands).<sup>60</sup> Unfortunately, no mention is made of what jurisdiction the domicile was in; it is likely that CATALYNTJE and JORESY were of African descent since only a single name is given for each which is very unusual for Caucasians but commonly found for the black population.

What is significant about the STILLWELL dispute is that the record clearly establishes as fact that ANTONY leased out parts of *Turk's Plantation* for cultivation and it is highly likely that the 1646 lease to ADLEY involved only a portion of *Turk's Plantation*.

STILLWELL sold *Turk's Plantation* in 1664 to FRANCOIS DE BRUYNNE (FRANCIS BROWNE) which he called *Bruynnsberg*. A half-year later DE BRUYNNE sold the north half of *Turk's Plantation* to JAN JANSE VER RYNE and it is here we find some identifiable landmarks: this part of the plantation was on main road between New Utrecht and Gravesend (possibly New Utrecht Avenue or Ocean Parkway) and on Old Bath Road. In 1669 DE BRUYNNE is found suing Gravesend in the Court of Sessions for the West Riding (King's County) followed by an appeal to the City Council of New York at Fort James in yet another attempt to settle the boundary disputes that plagued ANTONY for years. DE BRUYNNE sold the southern half to JAN HANSEN of Bushwick and BARENT JOOSTEN on 10 December 1678. HANSEN sold his half-interest in the southern half on 1 June 1696. It passed into the VOORHEES family when ALBERT VAN VOORHEES purchased *Bruynnsberg* in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century; he sold it to his son COERT VAN VOORHEES on 9 May 1747, 8 days before making out his Will.<sup>61</sup>

But all was not about money for ANTONY; he was also concerned about the more spiritual side of life. Ten Gravesend residents, including ANTONY JANSEN, his son-in-law JAN EMANS and LIEUTENANT NICOLAS STILLWELL, petitioned the DIRECTOR-GENERAL and Council for a preacher on 12 April 1660, which was granted that same day. Some researchers claim that ANTONY converted to Christianity later in life and submit this petition as the sole evidence of their shaky assertion.

On 7 April 1661, ANTONY JANSEN VAN *FAES* and three sons-in-law: WILLEM JANSEN VAN BORCULO, JAN EMANS of Cologne and FERNANDUS JANSEN VAN SICKELLEN petitioned the Council for the island south of Gravesend called Gysberts Island. This "island" bordered *Turk's Plantation* and was separated from the west end of Coney Island by a small creek; it had been

left vacant by the former owner GYSBERT OP DYCK. A point of clarification is required here as the English translations mistakenly refer to ANTONY'S sons-in-law as his brothers-in law; this is because the Dutch word *schoonzoons* which is found in the original Dutch manuscripts was used for both designations at that time. The Council, for reasons not stated, refused the request; on 12 January 1662 the Court issued a judgment regarding OP DYCK'S claim on the island and, incidentally OP DYCK, an unemployed *former officer in the service of the company*, submitted a petition in April to be appointed *Schout of Vlissingen, Middelburgh and Rustdorp*.<sup>62</sup>

He still owned livestock as he sold an ox to the *predecessor* of the woodcutter EVERT DIRCKZEN for twenty-eight guilders, ten stivers (20 stuivers = 1 guilder). In January 1663 ANTONY had to sue DIRCKZEN to obtain payment. ANTONY had lost a case brought by HARMEN BARENTSEN, for on 16 June 1668 ANTONY is noted as being in default (of judgment); no other details have been found in Court records. The Court of Burgomasters and Schepens was replaced with the Mayor's Court and its records belie a new career for the sixty-year-old ANTONY after he moved into Gravesend, now Gravesend – he became a supplier of lumber. One can only speculate on his source of trees but a good candidate would be STILLWELL'S fifty acre out lot. ANTONY was sued by JOHN MARSHAL in the Mayor's Court on 23 June 1668 for an unfilled order of *125 planks*, presumably meaning lumber. The damages had increased to *225 planks* when the case was heard on 30 June; the Court found for the plaintiff and ordered ANTONY to fill the order within eight days and to pay court costs. On that same date the case ANTONY had won against THOMAS JOANES is noticed with the defendant being in *default 1*; no other details have been found in Court records. On 7 July 1668 an ANTONY JANZ filed a suit against ROBBERT JOANES for a debt of *fl 122: 14 in Wampum* (meaning a cash debt of 122 florins, 14 stuivers) which the Court ordered JOANES to pay within 14 days; it is not certain if JANZ and JANSEN were the same person. ANTONY appears as the defendant in what must have been two lawsuits filed by LAMMERT VAN NECK who won both cases. The first one is only found in the Mayor's Court minutes of 6 April 1669 wherein ANTONY is noted as being in default. The second proceeding occurred on 22 June 1669 when LAMMERT sued, and won, for *fl 242: 14 in Wampum* (cash 242 florins, 14 stuivers). ANTONY was ordered to pay within 14 days, plus court costs; it appears that LAMMERT was sailing for Holland. On 6 July in that same year, the Court dismissed a suit against ANTONY because the plaintiff, ASSUR LEVY, a butcher, defaulted; both were in default on 6 April. On 24 August 1669 a suit ANTONY brought against TITUS SIRICX was settled by an agreement. THOMAS DAVIS or DAVIDTS, a ship owner, and ANTONY sued each other in 1671; both cases ended when the parties reached an agreement as found in the Mayor's Court minutes of 11 July. ANTONY won a suit against LODOWYCK POST but nothing else appears about this case in the published minutes of the Court; POST was in default of judgment on 19 September 1671.<sup>63</sup> This is the last entry found in the seven volume The Records of New Amsterdam from 1653 to 1674 Anno Domini, Minutes of the Court of Burgomasters and Schepens. These records are not complete as demonstrated by the number of cases in which there appears only a notice pertaining to an earlier Court proceeding which is not included.

- **NEW UTRECHT**

New Utrecht was settled by a small number of Dutchmen shortly after the aborted attempt of Gravesend to secure English protection. The Dutch in the area believed their own protection was not secure at the hands of the mainly-English Magistrates of Gravesend so they set about to establish their own town. JACOB VAN CORLEAR was the driving force the obtained a patent on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August in 1657 for one hundred thirty morgens

*on the east hook of the bay of the North River opposite Coney Island bounded on the West by Antony Jansen van Salee, N.E. by the kil that serves Gravesend's mill, E.S.E. and S. by same kil, and S.W. by the same bay.*

The *east hook of the bay of the North River opposite Coney Island* is misleading as this describes a hook off of Upper New York Bay which is quite a distance from Coney Island. JACOB VAN CORLEAR is probably the same person as the JACOBUS VAN CURLER who was involved in the slander proceedings of 1638 and 1639. The patent is sufficiently vague to cause disputes, which it did by the 13<sup>th</sup> of August in the following year which finds ANTONY petitioning the Council to amend the New Utrecht patent because the meadow granted under it was part of his plantation and had been bought from the Canarsie tribe on 26 September 1651. At this time the *Fiscal* of New Netherlands was NICASIVS DE SILLE who was also one of the original patentees of New Utrecht and one of STUYVESANT'S Council members. Perhaps realizing the uphill battle to secure the whole of the meadow for him, ANTONY'S petition asked for only that part of the meadow that was near his farm. The *Fiscal* argued that ANTONY did not have the required permission to conduct such negotiations with tribe and the town was within its rights to impound all of ANTONY'S hogs and his twenty-four head of cattle in the meadow. The Council's decision left it to the town to determine if their patent as described deprived ANTONY of all his useable meadowland; if so they were to give him some. Whatever the exact arrangement ended up being, it seemed to have satisfied all parties as no further court actions appear in the records. When the public land of New Utrecht was later distributed, each original patentee, or their heirs, received two shares while each proprietor received one. In this distribution ANTONY received two shares, lots 23 and 24, which may have represented the settlement of the suit. The absence of any land records that mention these shares favors the interpretation that these were incorporated into what became to be called *Turk's Plantation* which was transferred to NICHOLAS STILLWELL in 1660. Records of New Utrecht are much scarcer; perhaps they were easier to get along with. The town lay north of *Turk's Plantation* and wrapped around its eastern edge to butt up against Gravesend in the southeast and now represented in large measure by the Borough Park section of Brooklyn. The line between New Utrecht and ANTONY'S Gravesend property (lot 29?) *strikes the bay at the old church in the extreme northwest part of the present Unionville*. It has been reported that ANTONY had land on both sides of this line and *his house stood near to the line and close to the sea*. How this relates to the archeological finds in the sand dunes by Locust Grove has not yet been determined. His house is said to have stood on the New Utrecht side of the original line but he is referred to as being *of Gravesend* and never *of New Utrecht* which seems to indicate otherwise. The claim is also put forward by some that Gravesend asserted jurisdiction *over his estate* in the form of property taxes however this may actually refer to the taxes due of property formerly owned by ANTONY as he had sold his Gravesend property in 1669.

The problems inherent in attempting to delineate property lines can be found in this 1679 description of Coney Island: low sandy island, oblong and grown over with bushes...on the sea side is a meadow or marsh intersected by several kills or creeks; runs east to west and takes 30-45 minutes to walk its length; used to let horses run as they cannot get off island. It was separated from Pelican Beach by Plumb Inlet, long since filled in. Further east was *Beerren* (Barren) *Island* - 100 acres, 30 upland and the rest salt meadow covered with cord-grass, a slender hay-like plant - these Islands were separated from Long Island by creeks and marshes that were submerged at high tide - so they could be walked out onto at low tide. (Note that trying to map out property boundaries, especially near Coney Island can NOT be done using recent maps; the coastlines throughout the NY area have changed so dramatically; i.e. Coney Island



was, at times, a true island, more often a peninsula but in both cases it did not have the layout that we are familiar with at all - it curved out towards the east bank in a southerly direction, to get into Jamaica Bay thru Rockaway inlet you would sail right across where Rockaway Beach is today; ergo the property descriptions mentioning creeks and streams must be coordinated with available maps from that time.)

### LONG ISLAND 1640 TO 1665

Western Long Island had several towns identified as:

<u>Dutch towns</u>	or	<u>English towns</u>
Breuckelen (1646, Brooklyn)		Mespath, (1642, destroyed 1643)
Midwout (1653, Flatbush)		Heemestede (1644, Hempstead)
Amersfoort (1654, Flatlands)		Vlissingen (1645, Flushing)
Boswijck (1661, Bushwick)		Gravesend (1645, Gravesend)
New Utrecht (1661)		Middelburgh (1652, Newtown)
		Jemeco/Rustdorp (1656, Jamaica)

The English towns had English officials, despite bearing Dutch titles like *Schout*, followed English law and belonged to the Church of England; overall they enjoyed a great degree of freedom, as long as they took the Oath of Allegiance to the States-General. These became hotbeds of activity as the New Englanders increasingly encroached on the New Netherlands colony and England started to push its own set of fictitious claims to the area. Dutch towns were usually settled first followed by obtaining a patent delineating the boundaries and terms while both occurred nearly simultaneously in the English towns. This difference played a key role in the future of the colony as the English towns, being much better organized, presented a strong anti-DWIC front against which the Dutch in New Amsterdam could do little. In truth the Long Island Dutch were often more-than-likely to support the English. In 1685 when the *county* system replaced the *shire*, *Queen's County* included the towns in blue and *King's County* included those in red. Breuckelen, Midwout, Amersfoort, Boswijck, New Utrecht and Gravesend are the *six original towns* of Kings County, all but one being Dutch. Breuckelen, Midwout and Boswijck cover the northern half of that county while Amersfoort, New Utrecht and Gravesend cover the southern half.

In the latter part of 1650 STUYVESANT was forced into negotiations with the New England governor's over a Long Island boundary dispute with the determination that the New Netherlands colony included only the western one-third of the island reaching about ten miles inland from the North or Hudson River to Oyster Bay on the north shore, much to the detriment of the Dutch – their patent clearly encompasses not only all of Long Island but also Connecticut as well and the Dutch were the first to explore, conduct business and build trading posts in both; they also made massive land purchases from the native populations in both areas. Thus, by possession, patent and purchase they were in the right to refute any claim of England; unfortunately, they weren't numerous or strong enough to do anything other than file protests in England and New England. In response STUYVESANT took an aggressive stance against the religious practices of the English, demanding attendance by everyone within the colony to Dutch Reformed Church services and he then expelled a Lutheran minister, a Quaker and at least one Baptist.<sup>64</sup> Shortly after these negotiations BAXTER, HUBBARD, GROVER and other prominent Gravesend residents threw off their allegiance to Holland thereby reneging on their contract to

supply the DWIC with one-tenth of their production beginning in 1652. Their plan to form an independent colony under Connecticut's protection came to naught as additional concessions to the town dangled the prospect of displacing New Amsterdam as the center of trade. The outbreak of the Dutch-Anglo War in 1652 thwarted the Englishmen's plans. Being surrounded by a palisade Gravesend was thought to be capable of managing their own defense but instructions were given that upon attack, all residents were to vacate to Fort Amsterdam. This was interpreted as an abandonment of subjects of the English crown which the Dutch had agreed to protect and became the basis for the claim of the Governor's of both Connecticut and New Haven to all of Long Island. In May 1654 CROMWELL announced his intention to drive out the Dutch under the same pretense of protection and even sent a squadron of four men-of-war to Boston. This came to naught as the War ended on 23 June 1654. The DWIC urged STUYVESANT to take more stringent measures against the English and he removed BAXTER and HUBBARD as Magistrates and imprisoned them at Fort Amsterdam. Surely our ancestor JAMES GROVER would have joined them had it not been for the fact that he was on his way to England to present CROMWELL with the declaration of allegiance. BAXTER was found guilty of *high treason* and all his property was forfeited to the Company; this included his New Amsterdam house and lot, which happened to be located on *Paerel-straet* between Whitehall and State, south of the Fort, where ANTONY and GRIETJE lived until 1639. His brother THOMAS lost his property on the south side of *Paerel-straet* through similar proceedings – in its place STUYVESANT built his first stately residence, now near Whitehall and State. It is not known he received remuneration for these losses following his filing of a claim for 1275 guilders against the DWIC; as security for payment, he obtained a lien against the Company's storehouses. In late August 1655, STUYVESANT sailed with a military force in seven ships to Delaware Bay to do away with New Sweden, taking with him most of Fort Amsterdam's cannons and all but twenty soldiers. Conquered by the forever-in-debt DWIC, the Company turned over the whole of New Sweden, including lands on both banks of the Delaware, which exceeded the New Netherlands territory, to the City of Amsterdam for advances of money to pay their creditors.<sup>65</sup> What is usually called the Indian uprising of 15 September 1655 was in actuality a counter-attack by the allies of the Swedes. Somewhere between 600 and 2,000 Swedish allies, in 64 canoes, descended on New Amsterdam and Staten Island; they were from southern New Jersey and Pennsylvania, not the local New York tribes that have often been accused of attacking the settlements. Within 24 hours of receiving notification of the attack 200 Dutch soldiers had practically ran through all of New Jersey and were manning the walls of the Fort. STUYVESANT sailed in shortly after the exhausted troops arrived and the counter attack was foiled. Further souring Dutch-Anglo relations was the fact that Long Island was *not* attacked and the Dutch made much of the fact that the English of Gravesend were safe to move about freely without fear of attack; ignored is the fact that the Dutch of Gravesend were, likewise, safe.<sup>66</sup> The Dutch accused the English of conspiring with the Indians, but this is still a contested charge and, in any event, such an alliance was not required. Antony made his mark on the letter making this accusation:

20 October 1655

My lord

We are presently here surrounded by Indians, of whom some have been permitted to come in by the English. They say that the English are their friends (nietappen) [ ... ] will have nothing to [ ... ] It may well be that our turn will come soon. We request assistance as soon as possible, for the English let the Indians go in and out. We trust that since they move about freely we will be

offered no help, so that everyone with wife and children wait in great anxiety. Therefore, we all, young and old, humbly, request assistance.

On behalf of all of us,

JACOB SWART  
JAN TOMASSEN

✠ the mark of ANTONY JANSEN  
LAURIS JANSZ  
P.E. the mark of PIETER EBEL  
J.V. CURLER

Twenty soldiers were sent from Fort Amsterdam to secure the petitioners.<sup>67</sup>

In 1663 CROMWELL issued a patent that granted all of Long Island to the Connecticut colony in violation of the 1650 treaty; on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October the General Court at Hartford heard a petition of residents from *Rustdorp/Jemeco*, *Middelburgh* and *Heemstede* (Jamaica, Newtown and Hempstead) requesting protection. The Court sorely disappointed HUBBARD, the petition's bearer, when they postponed making a decision. Despite Hartford's refusal to get involved, several towns declared for Hartford and dismissed the Dutch officials. Ultimately a temporary settlement was reached – each town would be free to determine their allegiance and whatever that decision may be, there would be no military intervention by either side.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 1664 the towns of *Gravesend*, *Heemstede*, *Vlissingen*, *Middelburgh*, *Rustdorp/Jemeco* and *Foleston* (Gravesend, Hempstead, Flushing, Newtown, Jamaica and Oyster Bay) declared their independence and union as a separate colony until such time as the DUKE OF YORK could establish a government. The towns of *Breuckelen*, *Midwout*, *Amersfoort*, *Boswijck* and *New Utrecht* (Brooklyn, Midwood, Flatlands, Bushwick and New Utrecht) declared for Holland. STUYVESANT did not have the strength or backing to put down the revolt and was forced into an agreement allowing the six rebellious towns to remain under KING OF ENGLAND for a period of twelve months. GOVERNOR WINTHROP from Connecticut immediately claimed all of Long Island for his colony and Long Island was lost to New Netherlands nine months before the rest of the colony fell. In London a three-man committee which included the future proprietors of the New Jersey colonies, SIR GEORGE CARTERET and SIR JOHN BERKELEY, told the King it would take just three armed English vessels to conquer New Netherlands.<sup>68</sup> When CHARLES's fleet arrived in August 1664, it consisted of the 36-gun *Guinea*, the 30-gun *Elias*, the 16-gun *Martin* and the 10-gun *William and Nicholas*, under the command of *Colonel Richard Nicolls*. They first dropped anchor in *Nayak* (Gravesend) Bay offshore from *Turk's Plantation* below the *Narrows*. They established a blockade of the port on the 26<sup>th</sup> before the squadron proceeded to New Amsterdam. ANTONY and GRIETJE were two of ninety-three prominent residents that signed a statement that informed STUYVESANT that they supported an English take over and they would not support a fight; all of the municipal officers signed as did the Director-General's eldest son.<sup>69</sup> Even more convincing was the declaration of 96 soldiers, of the 150 present, that STUYVESANT did not have their approval to oppose the English.<sup>70</sup> Faced with the facts: over a thousand soldiers in the English squadron alone; add to that the hundreds of armed English from both Dutch and English territory lining the shores of Long Island, the reinforcements from New England, and the north being threatened by 150 French mercenaries and 600 native allies of the English – all just waiting for the signal to attack, STUYVESANT had little option but to surrender; he ratified the 24 *articles of capitulation* early Monday morning, September 8<sup>th</sup> (due to England clinging to the old Julian system, their records of the event are dated August 29<sup>th</sup>). At 8 am STUYVESANT lowered the flag (it was probably the

flag of the DWIC which was that of the tricolor Dutch Republic with the company's initials GWC, for *Geoctroyeerde Westindische Compagnie*, overlaid), marched out of Fort Amsterdam at the head of the garrison of 150 soldiers onto Bowling Green, turned immediately left and headed down *het Bever pad*, or Beaver Street, the single block to the North River anchorage where the soldiers embarked on the Company ship *Gideon*, and headed for home. One of the last acts of the town of New Amsterdam was to pay for the transport of the garrison; the DWIC could not be contacted and, being on the verge of bankruptcy, was unlikely to accept financial responsibility. It is believed that ANTONY and GRIETJE were witness to the end of republican rule under the Dutch, as were almost all of the 1,500 inhabitants of New Amsterdam. The English forces were kept carefully out of sight during the evacuation and it was almost two hours before they marched into the fort and raised the Union Jack, formally taking possession of the province of New Netherlands in the name of KING CHARLES II, who had already granted the province to his younger brother JAMES, DUKE OF YORK and ALBANY. NICOLL'S first act was to rename the town as *New York* and the fort as *Fort James*. The English may have taken the colony but the Dutch conquered the United Kingdom in 1688 when the Dutch HOUSE OF ORANGE took the throne from the reigning Scottish HOUSE OF STUART. KING WILLIAM III OF ORANGE imposed the Dutch republican form of government on the English Parliament. In the New World, it was the Dutch that created the liberal, democratic government of the United States of America.

After the Dutch formally surrendered, two competing factions arose for possession of Long Island: colonial rule under Connecticut's GOVERNOR WINTHROP or direct rule by the DUKE OF YORK. The foregone conclusion was ratified after a reading of the colonial patents by the sycophantic English court – the Island belonged to the DUKE OF YORK. Thus, the DUKE'S patent of 22 March 1664, which extended from the west side of the Connecticut River to the east side of the Delaware, included the whole province of New Netherlands which was subsequently renamed the Province of New York; the Provinces of East and West New Jersey were created from the land between the Hudson and Delaware Rivers and granted to the LORDS PROPRIETOR BERKELEY and CARTERET, the same who had recommended the taking of the Dutch colony to CHARLES II. The *shire* system was introduced with the creation of *Yorkshire* in 1664. For the next decade it was divided into three districts called *ridings*: the *East Riding* encompassed eastern or English part of Long Island; the *North Riding* had the Bronx, north of Manhattan plus the northern part of the former Dutch part of Long Island; the *West Riding* included Staten Island plus the southern part of Dutch Long Island. In 1675 Staten Island became its own quasi-entity, nominally separate from the West Riding but on record as being part of it with records held in the West Riding's seat at Gravesend. In 1683 the entire *shire* system was abandoned all-together when the *county* system was adopted: *New York County* covered the same area as the city of New York, which itself, was created as a Dutch corporation – the city still operates under that charter and dates its founding to the year the Dutch Republic issued the incorporation papers; *Suffolk County* was created from the East Riding; *Richmond County* took in Staten Island; *Westchester County* from the Bronx and other land north of Manhattan; on Long Island *Kings County* was created from the West Riding land there and *Queens County* from the North Riding land there. This is when Newtown, formerly a part of the West Riding which became King's County, was transferred to Queen's County. At this same time, the 1,200 square mile *Rensselaerswijck*, under the 4<sup>th</sup> *patroon*, KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER, became the 1<sup>st</sup> *lord* of the English *Manor of Rensselaerswyck*, which continued the quaint feudal traditions of tying tenants to the land and having sole authority on whether a person is allowed to live on the manor or if they can leave it. All government offices, including the courts, were solely the concern of the

*lord of the manor*, as were all appointments to any position, including judges and sheriffs; all without any interference from county or provincial government. Mistakenly said to have imported the feudal system in to the New World, the patroonship had some of the characteristics peculiar to the feudal system but in no way approached the severity of feudalism. It must be added though that the 9<sup>th</sup> *patroon* and 6th *lord*, STEPHEN III VAN RENSSELAER, offered extremely favorable perpetual leases on land to many of his tenants; he also allowed rents to be carried *on the books* so that they, in theory, could invest in improvements. When he died in 1839, there was about \$400,000.00 in unpaid rents due the estate. This the tenants blatantly refused to pay, believing they had a right to live in rent-reduced or rent-free lodgings, spending most of the rent they hadn't paid on *stuff* rather than improving their lot. These ingrates, despite being the ones who hadn't paid full rent in years and, despite signed promises to pay, rioted, destroyed property, assaulted officials and the like rather than honor their debt.

ANTONY lived to see many greater changes: the small public dock at *Beurs-straet* (Whitehall) consumed by the sweeping arm of the western half of the Great Dock, the creation of Broad Street on top of the filled-in *Gracht* which was continued out into the river as the eastern half of the Great Dock, the beginnings of the development of the North (Hudson) River side dockyards and the filling-in of the streets and lanes of the growing city with homes and businesses. Gone were the open expanses of the small plantations, the marsh and the livestock pastures. The *Brugh-straet* house, a block from the river, became a Bridge Street home lying two blocks from the river's edge and the bridge itself became the site of the first merchant's exchange. He witnessed the earliest extension of the island as the Great Dock was filled in. Water Street would become the new riverfront street within their children's lifetime. Their children would watch as history repeated itself and a new Great Dock jutting farther out into the river was built, then filled in and Front Street replaced Water Street as the next river side thoroughfare on the expanding island by the middle of the next century. The population of New Amsterdam went from two hundred seventy in 1628 to a thousand by 1642. KIEFT's Indian Wars dropped this number to eight hundred by 1653 but it soon rebounded with eighteen hundred residents by 1660 and twenty-four hundred just four years later. The one hundred twenty houses below the wall in 1656 became three hundred forty-two houses, with fifty being vacant, in 1660 which grew to five hundred by 1664, though one-fifth stood empty.<sup>71</sup> The high vacancy rate probably reflected the dilapidated condition of many structures rather than a lack of demand as the resident:house ratio remained relatively steady, hovering around five people/house in both 1660 and 1664. The colony as a whole expanded rapidly, from fifteen hundred in 1647 to two thousand in 1653 which mushroomed to ten thousand by 1664! STUYVESANT vacated his mansion south of the Fort at *Beurs-straet* (Whitehall) and *Langs Strant* (now Water Street), retiring to his plantation inland from Corlear's Hook near Tenth Street, east of Third Avenue, where he spent the rest of his days holding court as an elder statesman. New Netherlands was replaced with New York and New Amsterdam was replaced with, well ... New York.

By the end of 1669 GRIETJE had died, most likely in Gravesend. It is not known where she was buried but, given that they owned property on Manhattan, it could very well have been the original Dutch Burying Ground, located between Morris Street to the north and Battery Place to the south, West Street and the Hudson River to the west and, to date, only located west of Broadway without that street, Greenwich Street or Washington Street being designated as the eastern boundary.<sup>72</sup> By the end of 1669 Antony evidently was planning to remarry.

ANTONY's planned remarriage can be surmised from the Court records which show that on 23 December 1669 the three surviving daughters of *ANTONY JANSEN*, *commonly called Turk*,

and the minor children of CORNELIA, who had died in 1666, petitioned GOVERNOR NICOLLS for relief, claiming they were likely to be deprived of their rightful ownership of their mother's estate. Only a remarriage could place such ownership in jeopardy. All concerned parties were ordered to present themselves before the GOVERNOR on 6 January 1670 to have the petition answered. It seems from the lack of further mention that an agreement was reached between father and daughters however many records created at this time were destroyed in an accidental fire years later.

ANTONY married secondly METJE GREVENRAET (born ~ 1630 probably in Reusel, Reusel-De Mierden, North Brabant, Netherlands; daughter of ANDRIES GREVENRAET and METJE JANS) shortly after returning to Manhattan. METJE had a brother ISAACQ and two sisters, LÿSBETH and TRYNTJE. METJE's brother ISAACQ GREVENRAET, a single man from Amsterdam married LÿSBETH JEÛRRISENS, a single woman from Amsterdam on 16 March 1652 in New Amsterdam. He was *Schepen* of New Amsterdam in 1664, and they had at least three children: ANDRIES, HEINRICH, and LÿSBETH.<sup>73</sup> Brother and sister lived near each other in the 1660s when, as a widow, METJE lived on *t'Markveldt* during the 1660s. METJE also had a small house on the east side of what is now Whitehall just north of Stone Street, facing the Fort. Her sister-in-law LÿSBETH died before April 1663 while ISAACQ was still alive in 1671, when he was appointed *Schout* of Esopus.<sup>74</sup> Their sister LÿSBETH was married at least three times: to ISAAC PIETERSZ DE RIEMER in the Netherlands; she then married ELBERT ELBERTSEN in New Amsterdam. ELBERT, *in trying to board the ship Bontekoe* [Spotted Cow], *was drowned in the North River* in 1655. LÿSBETH GREVENRAEDT, the widow of ELBERT ELBERTSEN, married D. SAMÛEL DRÿSIÛS on 14 February 1660 and they lived in the city. Their other sister TRYNTJE married JAN DIRCKSEN MEÿER on 12 December 1677 in New Amsterdam and moved to the East Jersey Province in the vicinity of Bergen.<sup>75</sup> On 19 April 1665 the governing council of the Schout, Burgomaster and Schepens of New York decided that, because of protests and conflicts the inhabitants would rather pay an assessment for soldier's lodgings rather than have to quarter the soldiers in their homes. They adopted a list of all residents and their weekly contribution; METJE was assessed one florin per week for six weeks to pay for lodging the soldiers.<sup>76</sup> She also took in orphaned or soon-to-be-orphaned children: on 15 January 1661 she took in the five children of JANNETJE TOMAS, the widow of CLEYN or COLEYN CLASSIE, who must have been too sick to take care of them. JANNETJE did not die until 9 February 1661. METJE was paid 150 florins per year by TOMAS HALL, administrator of the estate and one of two guardians of the offspring, the other being PIETER STOUTENBURGH. On 11 March 1661 she was called to court and asked why she had not paid her money for the *Rattle watch* and for her *Burgherright*. She pled poverty to no avail; she was ordered to pay the first while the second was *meanwhile suspended*. On 11 March 1662, the Orphanmasters ordered the administrator to pay her *81 florins 4* of the 150 due for the year; they also ordered that she be paid 75 florins plus *out of the money of CLASS VAN ELSLANT*, SENIOR. He conducted the estate sale for JANNETJE and had deposited the proceeds with the court over a year earlier. In February of the following year she received 200 florins for *board of the child of Clein Classie* while, in February 1664 she was paid the same amount for boarding the children of JANNETJE TOMAS.<sup>77</sup> On 10 May 1664 she boarded the son of the deceased CLAAS MARTEN for 250 guilders per annum who also had TOMAS HALL and PIETER STOUTENBURGH as guardians.<sup>78</sup>

The Dutch-to-English change in government may have been pivotal in reversing ANTONY banishment, or perhaps it was the thirty years of good living in Brooklyn that did the trick but, either way, ANTONY sold the Gravesend plantation-lot to his son-in-law FERNANDUS VAN SICKELLEN in December 1669 and moved into the *Brugh-straet* house he owned in New

Amsterdam, or rather, the Bridge Street house in New York. Just which house this is not certain, as the one he purchased in 1644 had been sold in 1656 and no other record of a purchase has been found. All the muddy, rutted lanes were gone, replaced with paved streets by 1672; the festering *Herren-gracht* was cleaned and Anglicized becoming Broad Canal. Four years later, the town became less Dutch when it was realized the canals had outlived their purpose; they were filled in and paved over, *Beever-gracht* became Beaver Street and the Broad Canal, the former *Gracht*, became Broad Street. Between the paving of the streets and of the canals there was a brief reversion to Dutch rule and for several months, August 1673 to February 1674 officially (later in practice as word of the treaty that gave the place back to the English didn't reach the colony for several months) ANTONY once again lived on *Brugh-straet*, in New ... not York ... not Amsterdam ... but in *New Orange*.

In October 1672 ANTONY received a land grant in Elizabeth Towne, New Jersey as payment of a debt owed by JOHN WILSON, known as GREAT JOHN, when he wrote the bequest in his last Will and Testament on the 10<sup>th</sup> of that month. WILSON was one of Elizabeth Towne's original Associates, receiving a first-lot right in 1666.<sup>79</sup> ANTONY also received all of WILSON's tools and all other belongings whether in ANTONY's Bridge Street house or elsewhere. The unmarried WILSON died two days later in New York City. On the 15<sup>th</sup> ANTONY obtained ownership of all bequests as the principal legatee.<sup>80</sup> Shortly afterwards the English lost the colony to the Dutch but there appears little in the way of land transactions for the period of Dutch rule over *Achter Kol*. The actual land may not have been surveyed or patented; ANTONY may have sold the grant to HENRY NORRIS. Land grants and surveyed tracts were not subject to quit-rents but patented tracks were. With the resumption of English rule in 1674 came a resumption of the desire to collect taxes coupled with a nullification of patents issued during the previous period of English rule. A *Warrant for Survey* was issued to *HENRY NORRIS, self and JOHN WILSON, carpenter* on 14 March 1676 for 210 acres.<sup>81</sup>

ANTONY ran an inn and tavern from Bridge Street and was also involved in trading and lending money as Court records indicate. Running an inn had some pitfalls: an affidavit dated 16 April 1674 states that one SAMUEL FORMAN of Oyster Bay came to town and lodged at the house of ANTONY JANSEN VAN SALEE; FORMAN was banished two days later for disturbing, or planning to disturb, the church services and the *Schout* filed a complaint against ANTONY, the outcome of which is not known (but often confused with the next troublesome guest at the inn).<sup>82</sup> On the night of 28-29 April EDWAERT BAMBRI, an English Quaker from Martenaer's Neck, was brought to the inn by the daughter of MARGARET PHILIPS. This being the time of the Anglo-Dutch War, all English were banned from the city unless the *Schout* gave permission; violators were subject to a fine of 600 florins. The prohibition was posted on placards around the city. METJE stated that the PHILIPS girl told her that the *Schout* had already been notified. After MARGARET PHILIPS and her daughter denied making such statements, ANTONY filed his own lawsuit against them for damages which was rolled into the first case. ANTONY was found guilty and fined one beaver skin, instead of the 600 florins stated on the placard, by the Court and twelve florins was added after the *Schout* complained on 19 June 1674.<sup>83</sup>

A much uglier episode occurred in January 1674 – a Dutch soldier shot and killed one of the local natives, claiming he was drunk and dangerous. The Sheriff, or rather once-again, *Schout*, charged ANTONY on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January with serving four *mutsjens* of alcohol to the unfortunate guy. The record states that *the defendant's wife*, meaning METJE, testified that nothing of the sort happened and the *Schout* lost.

Despite all the problems that beset the town of New Amsterdam, it must be remembered that the Dutch colony at its worst fared better than its English neighbors. The governor of Massachusetts could, and did, eject any one from the colony he desired as *not fit to live with us* but in spite of this, the governor complained of the excessive drunkenness and the number who committed *the sin of uncleanness*. In 1637 that colony drew up a list of *heretical, erroneous, and unsafe opinions* on religious matters; it numbered eighty – more than twice the number the Roman Catholic Church had at its disposal when it charged MARTIN LUTHER. To merely state that Roman Catholicism was a Christian religion was one of those punishable crimes. The temperance of the colonists of Connecticut was often said to be admired by the Dutch; the caveat attached continued with they only *drink three times at a meal* is usually not included by English pseudo-historians. The colony at New Haven was noted for its high rate of convictions for *unmentionable crimes*. Piracy was another venture in which the English colonists excelled; in 1684 it has been estimated that Boston harbor alone brought in the equivalent in goods and silver of £80,000 (at a time when the average annual salary for males was £10!).<sup>84</sup> Violent crimes were so low in number that New Amsterdam was the only city or town in North America that did not employ a night watchman. Virginians were almost as notorious for their gambling as they were for their shady business dealings, with dishonesty so rampant that any merchant doing business with there had to establish a physical presence in town to guarantee delivery of the goods purchased under contract. They were deemed *a villainous people* who would *sell their own fathers for servants on the Islands*. The fallacy that the English colonies were the instigators of a democratic form of government in the New World still persists not only in many minds but also the textbooks used to supposedly educate our public school students. While the ideal form of government was seen as republican, the mechanism by which it was to be administered was an absolutist oligarchy. By 1660 less than 20% of Boston's population was even eligible to vote and leading figures such as JOHN COTTON, GOVERNOR JOHN WINTHROP, and NATHANIEL WARD were vehemently, and vocally, opposed to democracy which accounted for *the meanest and worst form of government* according to the governor.<sup>85</sup> Of course this is counterbalanced by the mass murder of the Native Americans while they slept in February 1643 at the order of KIEFT.

On 1 February 1674 the *Burgomasters and Schepens of New Orange* were cash-strapped so an order was issued to raise money by *a taxation of the Wealthiest Inhabitants*. The first valuation, completed on 9 February, shows ANTONY JANSEN VAN SALEE valued at 300 florins (range 300 to 30,000). The valuation was low or the amount to be raised was insufficient so a second valuation was done within a week which raised his value to 1,000 florins (range 300 to 80,000).<sup>86</sup> The following information may have been contained in that second valuation. ANTONY is shown as the Dutch (as opposed to English) owner of a second-class property on Bridge Street. There were four classes based on the estimated value and ANTONY'S was considered in the same class as the former DIRECTOR-GENERAL; his estimated personal wealth of 1,000 florins was roughly equivalent to \$3,000.00 at that time. A third, and final, list of *the best and most affluent inhabitants of this city* contained 62 names that had been culled from the second valuation on 19 February. This abbreviated list was presented to the Council on 19 March; ANTONY is not on the list.<sup>87</sup> He appears as 1 of only 134 property owners on a list dated February 1675 for the returning English authorities.

ANTONY died in early 1676 as Letters of Administration, with a mention of an anti-nuptial contract, were granted to his widow on 25 March 1676 [corrections are authors]:

*Administration granted to METTI GREVENRAET, of her husband's Estate.*  
*EDMUND ANDROS Esqr., Governor: Whereas ANTONY JANSEN of this City died*



*Intestate and METTI GREVENRAET, his Widow & Relict having in order to her taking out Letters of Administration Exhibited an Inventory of her said husband's estate into ye Mayors Court of this City, & likewise produced a Contract made between her said husband, & her before Marriage, that ye longest liver of them should remain in the full possession of the whole Estate during the Survivor's life, the proof whereof was allowed of by the Court & Recommended to me for Letters of Administration: These presents may Certify and declare that the said METTI is admitted & confirmed to all intents and purposes, Administratrix of her said husband's Estate, & She hath hereby full Power & Authority to act in ye premises, as Administrator by ye Laws of this Government are to do, She giving Security to perform the Contract, accordingly. Given under my Seale ye March 25th 1676.<sup>88</sup>*

He was probably buried in the old Dutch Burying Ground on the west side of Broadway, perhaps next to GRIETJE if she was buried there. The husband's of ANTONY'S four daughters filed a petition with the Surrogate's Court in September 1676 to compel METJE to file an inventory of the estate:

*To the Worshipful ye Mayor and Aldermen: The humble Petition of THOMAS SOUTHWARD, WILLEM JOHNSON, JOHN EMANS and FERNANDUS VAN STICKLAND who Intermarried with ANNICA, CORNELIA, SARA and EVA – Daughters & heirs unto ANTONY JOHNSON late of this City who dyed intestate about Six months Since – Showeth--That METIE GRAVEROD Widow unto ye intestate hath not brought into this Court a true Inventory of his Estate--Therefore Prays yet the said METIE GRAVEROD may be Compelled by this Worshipful Court to there to produce an Inventory according to Law & yet your Petitioners may have their Equal shares & Portions of the said Intestate's Estate. And they shall pray &c.<sup>89</sup>*

An inventory was eventually filed but not recorded. It has not been found in the Surrogate Court records that were transferred to Albany. ANTONY JANS TURKE was taxed 18 shillings, 9 pence (18 s, 9 d) for the Bridge Street property on 10 November 1676.<sup>90</sup> The estate was still open on 24 July 1677 when it was taxed 8 shillings for an unidentified property somewhere on Whitehall Street (formerly *Beurs-straet*) on the eastern edge of the Market Field or between Whitehall and Winkle Streets just east of the Market Field. METJE'S separate property at the intersection of Market Field Lane (*Het Marcktveld-steegie*, now Battery Place) and Broadway was taxed 4 shillings.

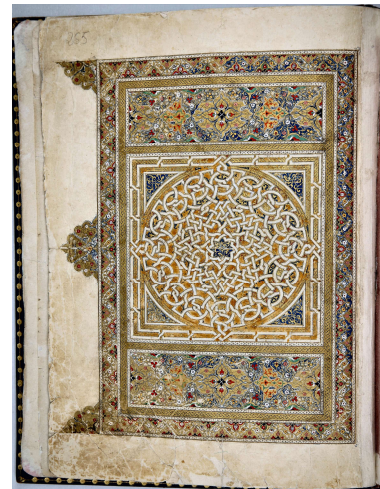
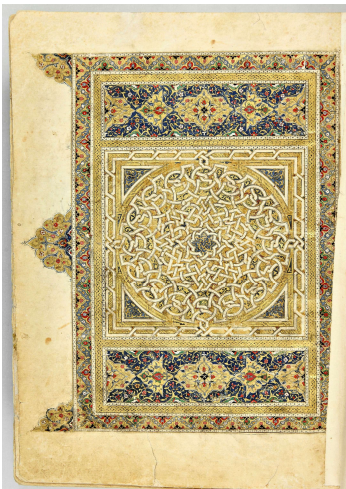
METJE continued to live in the Bridge Street house for at least a decade but seems to only have had use of the property during her lifetime. She did not bequeath the property by will or convey it by any deed now of record. No records exist that indicate any of ANTONY'S children ever owned or sold the property either. It could have gone to one of METJE'S children from her first marriage but this is only conjecture. The lack of records is, indeed, a puzzle. Its location however is not: the original lot can be seen today – it is a parking lot adjacent to the White Horse Tavern! Whatever other property ANTONY owned is unclear as is its disposition.

In 1686 METJE GREVENRAET, wed. van ANTONY JANSZEN (widow of) is found still living in the *Brug straet* (Bridge Street) house when DOMINE HENRICUS SELYNS, the minister of the Dutch Reformed Church wrote a list of the church members by street.<sup>91</sup> A WIDOW JANSEN is living on Bridge Street when a list of the residents of Dutch descent was made.<sup>92</sup> No death record for METJE has been found but the Geni site referenced earlier gives her year of death as 1686.

### THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ANTONY'S QU'RAN

ANTONY JANSEN VAN SALÉE is believed to have brought the first copy of the Qu'ran to this continent. What is known about that copy is:

- It was the first copy of the Qu'ran in America.
- Coming from a Moroccan SULTAN it was 1 of 500 created between 1594 and 1599 for EMIR AL-MANSUR of Morocco; passed to son ZIDAN in 1603 who added a notation to his copy on Folio 264r which states that this copy was *executed in the Mosque of the Al-Badi Palace in Marrakech, and finished on the 13th day of the month of Rab'ia in the year 1008 after the Hegira during the reign of EMIR AL-MANSUR, father of MULEY ZAYDAN (left)*. Finished on 2 November 1599, ZIDAN'S copy was in his library that was stolen in 1611; it is item 1340 at the *Real Biblioteca de San Lorenzo al El Escorial* north of Madrid. Pages with Illuminated motifs are pictured below (Folios 2r, 264v, and 265r).



- Facsimiles published in 1996 were being sold for over \$4,000.00!! As the copies were identical we know had:
  - ✦ 532 pages in 266 folios each having a *verso* and *reverso* side.
  - ✦ Approximately 9.625" ( $9\frac{5}{8}$ ) x 7.125" ( $7\frac{1}{8}$ ) or 24.4 x 18 cm; not 27 x 19.5 cm as stated.
  - ✦ Decorated in the *mabsut* style.
  - ✦ Titles of the *suras* are written in gold *Kufic* on a blue ground, as shown at right on folio 263v.
  - ✦ Folios 1v is *Illuminated* with Moorish motifs as are the three pictured above.



- The book is a work-of-art and copies were given to several crowned heads of Europe.
- ANTONY left Morocco just before ZIDAN died; therefore it could only have come from him *unless* “ANTONY’S” copy was actually his father’s and ANTONY got it as a bequest after his father died sometime around 1650. After ZIDAN’S death in September 1627 any remaining copies passed to his son SULTAN EL-WALID. “ANTONY’S” Qu’ran could have been given to JAN JANSEN, possibly when he became governor of Oualida in 1635 and then passed to his eldest son upon his death. Was
- After ANTONY’S death the Qu’ran was left to his daughter EVA JANSEN VAN SALÉE & her husband FERNANDUS VAN SICKLEN. It was passed down until it came into the possession of CATHERINE GULICK (b.1800) in early 1800s. CATHERINE left it to her nephew JOACHIM RULE (b.1820). After his death it was sold at an estate sale in 1886 for \$100.00 to another descendant, RICHARD M. JOHNSON of Kingston, NJ.
- JOHNSON, who doesn’t know what the book is, takes it to a curio shop in Trenton owned by the Jew *JERUSALEM*. JOHNSON agrees to *JERUSALEM’S* terms of sale: \$25.00 up front and another \$25.00 when it sells. Soon thereafter the *JERUSALEM* died and what became of his business property is not known. JOHNSON never hears anything.
- Another descendant in the GULICK line, named ROBERT BAYLES, contacts JOHNSON some years later about the Qu’ran and writes a manuscript about it which is in the Manuscript Department of the New York Public Library.
- Last known contact about the Qu’ran was contained in a letter dated 21 February 1925 from JOHNSON to CHARLES ANTHONY HOPPIN of Greenfield, OH telling of the books trail to the curio shop in Trenton. Hoppin retells this to someone in a letter written in 1932.

The Qu’ran wasn’t the only item of ANTONY’S that was passed down in the family. CATHERINE GULICK related that a “copper tea kettle and a small, brass pan with a peculiar and unusual pattern” were also in the GULICK family in her lifetime. While the whereabouts of the copper tea kettle are unknown, it appears that the “small, brass pan with a peculiar and unusual pattern” was in the possession of CHARLES ANTHONY HOPPIN of Greenfield, OH in 1932. ANTONY came to own a Crescent Medal that was given to his father; that medal stayed in the family for a number of generations before being given to the Holland Society of New York in Manhattan. An inquiry about the medal was made by this author to the Holland Society in 2008 which was not answered.

ANTONY and GRIETJE had four daughters. Only their grandchildren are named unless the descendants, at some point, owned items belonging to ANTONY.

#### ISSUE<sup>93</sup>

- 1) ANNICA ANTONISE JANSEN VAN SALÉE: born about 1632 in New Amsterdam, New Netherlands. She married THOMAS SOUTHARD on 29 December 1650 in Gravesend, New Netherlands. In one of the several strange ironies encountered in this ancestral sojourn, our English and Moroccan blood comes to us through ancestors born in neither country but through a wholly Dutch couple – THOMAS SOUTHARD, born in Leiden, Holland to English parents and his wife ANNICA JANSEN, born in New Netherlands to a Dutch/German mother and Dutch/Berber father. Their biography is continued in a separate file.

- 2) SARAH ANTONISE JANSEN VAN SALÉE: born about 1635 in New Amsterdam, New Netherlands. She was married about 1660 to JOHN EMANS, SENIOR, son of ANDREAS EMANS. He was born 1639 in Netherlands and died 1715 in Gravesend, Kings County, New York. SARAH also died in 1715. 8 known children:
  - a) ANTONY EMANS
  - b) CORNELIA EMANS: married PAULUS AMERAN; 1 known child.
  - c) HENDRICK EMANS
  - d) JACOBUS EMANS
  - e) JOHN EMANS
  - f) ABRAHAM EMANS
  - g) SARAH EMANS: born about 1676; married JOSEPH MORGAN 14 October 1696; 7 children
  - h) ANDREAS EMANS: born about 1677 in New Utrecht, Kings County, New York. He married REBECCA VAN CLEEF on 24 November 1693 in Kings County, New York. She was born about 1672 in Gravesend, Kings County, New York, and died 15 November 1755 in New Jersey. 2 known children.
  
- 3) CORNELIA ANTONISE JANSEN VAN SALÉE: born about 1638 in New Amsterdam, New Netherlands; married 2 March 1658 to WILLEM JANS LUBBERDINK VAN BORCULO (1621 – 1683) in Dutch Reformed Church, Flatbush, Kings County, New York. WILLEM bought a house with a barn in Gravesend from PIETER LOWERESEN, son of the deceased LOWERIS JANSEN on 23 June 1662. They had 4 children, *[named below]*. CORNELIA died in 1665/66. WILLEM married (2) LYSEBET JANS, widow of CHRISTOFFEL JANS, 9 more children. An *Assessment of Real and Personal Property*, done on 24 August 1675, after the return to English rule has WILLEM JANSEN VAN *BERCKELO* as a resident of Amersfoort with just £45 being shown.<sup>94</sup>
  - a) JANNETJE BARKELO: born circa 1660; married (1) JAN BARENTSE VAN DRIEST, 18 May 1679; 5 children *[including (i) below]*. JANNETJE married (2) ELIAS HUBBARD, 15 December 1699, 1 child.
    - i) BARENT JANSEN: (he used JANSEN as his surname as well as JOHNSON but not BARENTSE VAN DRIEST) married MARIA STILLWELL (The RICHARD JOHNSON who bought the Qu'ran from JOACHIM RULE before 1886 may have been a descendant of this couple since most took the surname JOHNSON)
    - (1) NICHOLAS JANSEN/JOHNSON: married ANTJE WYKOFF
      - (a) WILLIMENTJE JOHNSON: born 1736; married PETER GULICK JUNIOR (born 1732) a descendant of ANTONY through his daughter EVA
  - b) CORNELIA BARKELO: born circa 1662; married (1) JOHN DISHINGTON, 15 April 1684, 4 children. Married (2) ANDREW LAW, 20 April 1695, 1 child.
  - c) JAN HARMENSE BARKELO
  - d) WILLEM BARKELO: married MARIA CORTELYOU.
  
- 4) EVA ANTONISE JANSEN VAN SALÉE: born 1641 in New Amsterdam, New Netherlands. EVA was baptized 3 November 1647 in the Dutch Reformed Church, New Amsterdam. She married FERNANDUS VAN SICKLEN on 6 June 1661. EVA died 1710 and was buried in Flatbush, NY. Children are:

- a) MARGIETJE VAN SICKLEN: baptized 1663 in Dutch Reformed Church, Flatlands, Kings County, New York. Married CAPTAIN JAN ALBERTSE TERHUNE on 6 June 1691, Dutch Reformed Church, Flatbush, Kings County, NY. MARGIETJE died in 1705. 2 children.
- b) (*unnamed daughter*) VAN SICKLEN: She married JAN WILLEMSE BENNET.
- c) SUSANNA VAN SICKLEN: Baptized 1 May 1681 at Dutch Reformed Church in Flatbush, Kings County, New York.
- d) REINIER VAN SICKLEN: born about 1661, Flatlands, Kings County, New York. He married JANNETJE VAN HOORN on 26 March 1687 in Flatlands, Kings County, New York. REINIER died before 1707 and JANNETJE died in 1719 in Flatlands, Kings County, New York. 1 Child.
- e) EVA VAN SICKLEN: born about 1665. She married JAN BERDAN, JUNIOR on 20 May 1693 in Dutch Reformed Church, Flatbush, Kings County, New York. EVA died before 6 November 1733. 11 Children.
- f) JOHANNES VAN SICKLEN: born about 1669, Flatlands, Kings County, New York; married JANNETJE in 1694.
- g) JANNETJE VAN SICKLEN: born 1670; married ADRIAEN LANE. JANNETJE died January 1761.
- h) FERDINANDUS VAN SICKLEN: born about 1675, Flatlands, Kings County, New York; married GERTRUY MINNE JOHANNES about 1696. At least 2 children:
  - i) RENSJE VAN SICKLEN: married JOHANNES GULICK
    - (1) JOACHIM GULICK: married REBECCA EMANS, probably a descendant of ANTONY through his daughter SARAH.
      - (a) REBECCA GULICK: married PETER JOHNSON RULE (born 1796)
        - (i) JOACHIM RULE: born 1820; had ANTONY'S Qu'ran in 1880s.
    - ii) EVA VAN SICKLEN: married PETER GULICK SENIOR (brother of JOHANNES GULICK)
      - (1) PETER GULICK JUNIOR: born 1732; married WILLIMENTJE JOHNSON (born 1736) who was also a descendant of ANTONY through his daughter CORNELIA.
  - i) CORNELIA VAN SICKLEN: born 1678, New Amersfoort, Kings County, New York. She married JAN CORNELISE BANTA (born about 1684) on 3 April 1708 in Dutch Reformed Church, Hackensack, Bergen County, New Jersey. 2 children.

There are several persons named as siblings of the above but supporting documentation is lacking. The HERBER/JOHNSON Family Tree on *Genealogy Online* names three additional sisters: ANNETJE VANSALEE JANZEN (1632 – 1653), a second ANNICA JANSEN VANSALEE (b. before 22 December 1653), and a second SARAH VANSALEE (1619 – 1638), who are separately identified from the same-named above; plus two brothers: JAN VANSALEE (1631 – 1634) and ENGELTJE ANTONY VANSALEE (b. 1635). The RANSBOTTOM Family Tree on the same site attributes an astounding 27 children to ANTONY and GRIETJE!<sup>95</sup>

Interestingly, and sometimes confusing, is the fact that descendants sometimes adopt different surnames, for instance VAN BARKELO or BARKELO and not JANSEN. This author has found that, not only have some of ANTONY and GRIETJE'S descendants adopted VAN SALEE as their surname while others kept JANSEN, there are also two groups of people researching ANTONY and GRIETJE – one group posts its findings using the surname JANSEN while the other uses VAN SALEE – and it is only recently that each group found out of the other's existence.



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